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# The SPHERE

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Vol. CC, No. 2609
FEBRUARY 4, 1950

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The Senior Angler shook his head,
"There is no catch in it," he said;
"You cannot say a story's tall
"If you can nail it to the wall."

This trophy proves that he's not bluffing—
The proof of the fish is in the stuffing.
But why the Guinness, you'll be thinking?
The proof of the strength is in the drinking.

G.E.1526

*Number 2 of "A Guinness Sportfolio"*

Volume CC No. 2609 The SPHERE, London, February 4, 1950

The SPHERE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "THE GRAPHIC"
THE EMPIRE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

**SHIPS OF THE HOME FLEET FORGATHER IN WEYMOUTH BAY—THE DESTROYERS "CADIZ," "JUTLAND," "BAROSSA," "GABBARD," "ALAMEIN" AND "CORUNNA," ALL UNITS OF THE BATTLE CLASS, SEEN WITH OTHER WARSHIPS BEFORE SETTING OUT LAST SATURDAY FOR THE CUSTOMARY SPRING CRUISE TO GIBRALTAR AND THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN: The Fleet was due to reach Gibraltar on February 2. In March it will join the Mediterranean Fleet for combined exercises**

Admiral Sir Philip Vian, the Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet, flying his flag in H.M.S. *Implacable*, set out last Saturday at the head of the Home Fleet en route to Gibraltar and the Mediterranean on the annual Spring Cruise. The carrier *Vengeance*, of the 3rd Aircraft Carrier Squadron, the cruisers *Superb* and *Cleopatra*, both of the 2nd Cruiser Squadron, and three destroyer flotillas made up the Fleet, and accompanying them were the battleship *Vanguard*, flagship of Rear-Admiral Evans Lombe, Commanding the Training Squadron, and the carrier *Victorious*, also of the Training Squadron. During the cruise the *Superb* and one destroyer will visit Madeira, while two destroyers will show the flag at Setubal, Portugal. The Home Fleet will visit Sardinia before linking up with the Mediterranean Fleet for combined exercises.

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# A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

**Briefing the Socialist Fighter-Pilots.**—The Chiefs have held their briefing pow-wow and the candidates for glory are airborne. After A.C.M. Attlee had pumped in a little complacency with a review of "business done," A.C.M. Morrison gave a last-word "pep" talk on lines more sombre. "No complacency," he begged. The mission would not be a joy-ride. The A.A. gunfire might be searching and evasive action must be used to avoid awkward questions. There were black spots on the route, especially in the Midlands, Black Country and North-West. To one who lives in West Sussex, these Midland and Northern pin-pointings are interesting and suggestive. I know something about Tory strongholds. I conceived that the danger to the Right (and not to the Left) would lie in Mr. Morrison's black spots. But it is not so. In that great strategist's view, the battle will be fought, lost and won over the playing-fields of the Black Country, or, broadly, between Carlisle and Birmingham. It may be so. It will be cold work and hot work, and I am glad I shall not be there. But I am no more complacent than Mr. Morrison would have his fighter-pilots.

**Forecasting the Result.**—I am not to be caught prophesying the results of February 23. I have lived through many General Elections and have worn the fool's cap after most of them. And those who must prophesy or burst, are well advised not to pronounce until about noon on zero day. For a *little thing* concerning a village pump may turn the scale and settle the waverers, against all preconceived opinion, on the day of the poll. But Mr. Gallop and his kind are very busy, and it all adds to the fun. It is not all fun for the canvassers, who come in with such satisfactory promises from their rounds. A promise is not a vote cast. And it 's a queer thing (and has been so for many years) that all the people you meet and talk to in trains and buses are true-blue Tories, and yet, now and again, we have for our sins a Socialist Government. Before Christmas, 52 per cent. of Mr. Gallop's non-waverers would vote Tory, 38 per cent. Socialist. Good. Yesterday, the Tory majority had dropped to a mere 6 per cent. But Mr. Churchill's broadside has probably improved those figures once more. But whatever the vote "certainties" of the day, the prophecies of the Gallop canvassees always envisage a Socialist victory by a majority between 25 and 35 per cent. Apparently, votes are not *all*. Certainly, promises to vote are pie-crust until the poll is closed.

**Food and Agriculture.**—Mr. Churchill's isolated reference to Lord Woolton in his broadcast suggested to some people that Lord Woolton was not destined for higher office in the Conservative Cabinet, if it be called for after February 23. A day or two later the N.F.U. strongly supported a proposal for the merging of the departments of Agriculture and Food, bitterly criticising Mr. Strachey's conduct of the latter office. There were hints in Mr. Churchill's script that such an amalgamation might well be favoured by the Conservatives. British agriculture is the right hand of our food problem and seldom knows in advance what the left hand proposes to do. Too often the Food Minister, by foreign dumping, has taken away the incentives and the fair profits of home production which the Minister of Agriculture has encouraged. The merging of these closely allied Ministries would achieve great economy and invaluable co-ordination. Whether Lord Woolton would in his circumstances be judged fit for the dual role is not so clear. He would be in the "wrong" House. His record as Food Minister is unchallenged, his knowledge of agriculture is not so incontestable. But patience, common sense and organising ability in a Minister are usually regarded as of much more importance than technical knowledge of detail. Many a War Minister and even ruler of "the Queen's Navee" has done a good job without having experienced a whiff of grape or a trip to Calais. Certainly common sense and organising ability should be combined to deal with our food problem.

**PUTTING THE CONSERVATIVE CASE—LORD WOOLTON, ORGANISER OF THE CONSERVATIVE GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN, ADDRESSING A PRESS CONFERENCE AT PARTRIDGE HALL, CHURCH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, WHEN PRESENTING THE PARTY'S MANIFESTO, "THIS IS THE ROAD": Seated on Lord Woolton's right hand was Mr. R. A. Butler (former Education Minister), who had a large hand in formulating the policy documents. On Lord Woolton's left hand was Miss Marjorie Maxse, Vice-Chairman of the Conservative Party, who was for many years Chief Organisation Officer of the Central Office. Mr. Butler also addressed the meeting and told his audience: "We shall bring nationalisation to a stop here and now"**

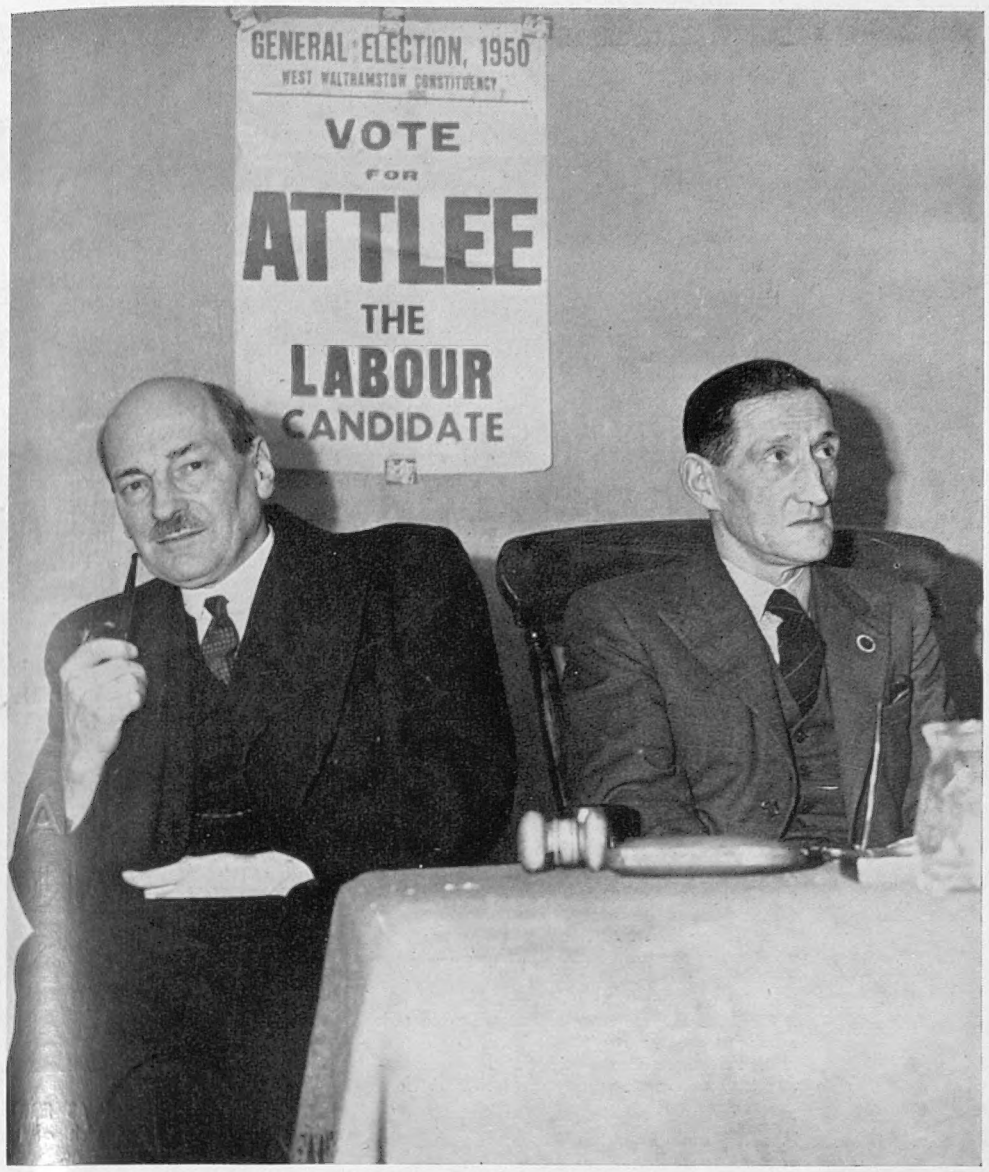
**Fair Comment.**—My heart warmed to the *Manchester Guardian* (which is now making a much larger appearance on our Sussex bookstalls than ever before) for its very impartial criticism of the Conservative Manifesto *This is the Road*. There was none of the bludgeon-and-trumpet business here. It was fair comment in the great tradition. *O si sic omnes!* It described the manifesto as "clever," which is not in an election programme so fine a quality as "practical" or "honest," but it was kindly meant. And elsewhere "laudable" and "consistency of a good sort" occurred as words of commendation. The *M.G.* quite fairly translated one Conservative promise (to reduce taxation substantially) into £ s. d. A cut of 1s. in the standard rate would absorb the whole benefit of a cut of one-twentieth in the current rate of Government spending and leave little or nothing over wherewith to check inflation or ease imports. But "one-twentieth" (some of us vaguely suppose) might not be an impossible cut in the present astronomic spending (£3,300,000,000), and the £165,000,000 which one-twentieth implies might be raised to £300,000,000 or more if Conservative hints at efforts to make fair economies in defence expenditure, for greater efficiency, should materialise. Throw in such minor matters as P.R.O. departments, information services, Government travelling and, if you please, County Agricultural Committees, and all the "pest-officer," etc., growths, which are listed for retrenchment, and the promise looks good for 1s. off income-tax and something over for anti-inflation and a beginning of reduction in indirect taxation. The great Liberal critic, who may well feel bitter against the Tory's theft of the clothes of a bathing Liberal, did not explicitly rule out that possibility.

**A Little Dinner at the Grand Babylon.**—Once the capital of the world and of civilisation, our London pride still requires that we should maintain splendid, dignified hotels and restaurants for our rich visitors—who expect such establishments to be first-rate—and for those of onr nationals who (Heaven knows how) can afford the costs. It is not often that I give or attend a little dinner at the Grand Babylon. And always I come away, well-filled, well-served, but marvelling and puzzled. I reckon you can give a little dinner for eight persons of three courses for about 23s. a head, and with a modest couple of bottles of a non-vintage champagne and coffee, you can "get out" at just under £14. The regular patrons and the management alike regard these figures as reasonable and modest. The causes of irritation and puzzle occur only (it seems) to those occasional diners who are neither Americans nor regular patrons. For example, a round of sherry as an appetiser costs 5s. to 7s. 6d. a glass—£2 for eight guests. But the bottle used costs the management probably less than it costs me to buy for home consumption, that is, 15s. 6d. A profit of 125 per cent. is high for a small sherry. Then the list price of the chosen menu bears no reference at all to the account rendered, when the special charge, the agreed percentage and other obscure tolls have been included. The wine also is 17s. 6d. a bottle when I buy it from my merchant. It is 39s. when I buy it from the Grand Babylon—an even handsomer profit. I look round the half-filled dining-room and observe throughout the evening eight functionaries, too grand to wait at table, who stand idle from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. What are they there to do? And throughout the evening, band succeeds band, orchestra orchestra and vocalist vocalist. Are all these extras necessary for Grand Babylonian civilisation? I expect the Grand Babylon to be expensive. I wish it were not so Delphic in its budgets and economy.

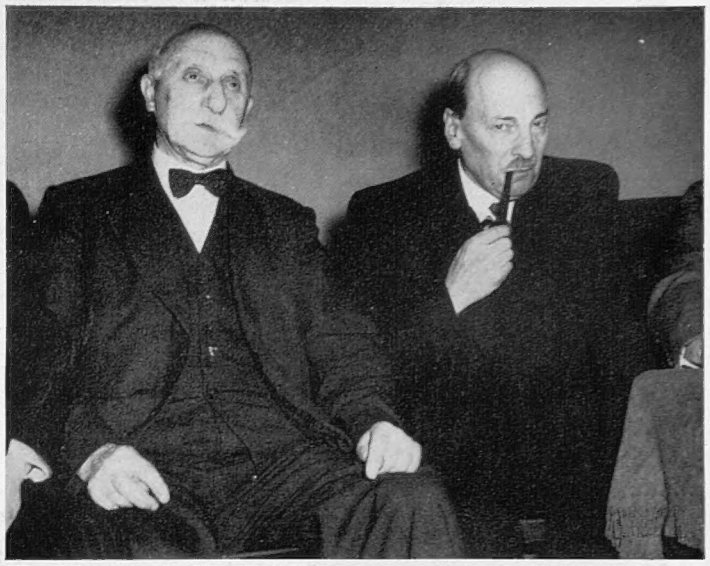
**Decadent?**—How fantastic are the head-shakings from some quarters concerning the decadence of our race. It is said that Britain is losing its manhood, that the Welfare State, with its parental planning and spoon-feeding, has sapped our endurance, our initiative, our love of adventure—all those qualities which gave us Drake and made us great. What are the *facts*? Any night in the freezing winter, you will find 10,000 men ready to sit on the icy pavement for twelve hours in the hopes, at the end of their vigil, of getting a ticket for a football match. Any night under the same conditions, a thousand women will queue in the gutter on the chance of a bargain in nylons or a cheap fur coat, or of a distant prospect of one of those film-stars passing in to a première of a crook film from Hollywood. Those are the facts. Newspapers are only concerned with facts, and newspapers are crammed full of these facts and evidences, to the exclusion of less important matters of fact. When it comes to the *things that matter*, our race is as virile, as enduring, as adventurous, as ever were Drake and Scott of the Antarctic. Whatever charges you may bring against us Britons, we are not decadent. Or are we? It all depends on your opinion of what are the things that matter. And if any of my now very suspicious readers interpret this paragraph as barefaced Socialist propaganda, there is nothing I can do about it. It is the penalty that awaits all who indulge in light or bitter satire.

**"Quia Impossibile."**—B. D. Hume, after a jury disagreement, was found not guilty of the murder of Setty. Subsequently, he received a twelve-year sentence on a minor count as accessory-after-the-fact to murder. Few will regard that sentence as too severe, albeit the prosecution admitted that no useful purpose would be served by a re-trial on the capital charge. The trial will probably rank among the first half-dozen of its kind in sheer horror, in its revelation of "a way of life," of a mental outlook, in human beings with whom we live cheek by jowl, which is in truth incredible to us. We first reject the revelation as impossible, a nightmare fiction. A pale shadow of it is thrown on the screen in crook films every day and that pale shadow also "good, easy men" reject as a figment and resent as a social evil poisoning young minds. Yet within one year we have had a lot of clear evidence supplied to us of men to whom murder is an everyday occurrence, the dismembering of victims a sensible way out of a difficulty, and the disposal of parcels of a bloody human carcass a reasonable job for a moderate wage, all in the day's work and the prudence which a reasonable man is wise to exercise. Throw in that these parcels of flesh may lie about among the children's toys or side by side with the week's joint from the butcher, and you may subscribe heartily to the old cliché concerning Truth and Fiction and hoot out Burke, Hare, Poe and the rest of the old horror-mongers in deed and in fiction as mere back numbers, and may hail our brave new world as . . . much more lively and up to date. *Credo quia impossibile.*

THE OLD STAGER




MR. ATTLEE AT THE WILLIAM MORRIS HALL, WEST WALTHAMSTOW: The Prime Minister in his new constituency, where the West Walthamstow Labour Party officially adopted him last week as their candidate in the coming General Election. Mr. Attlee was formerly M.P. for Limehouse, but his constituency was merged with others following the alteration of boundaries



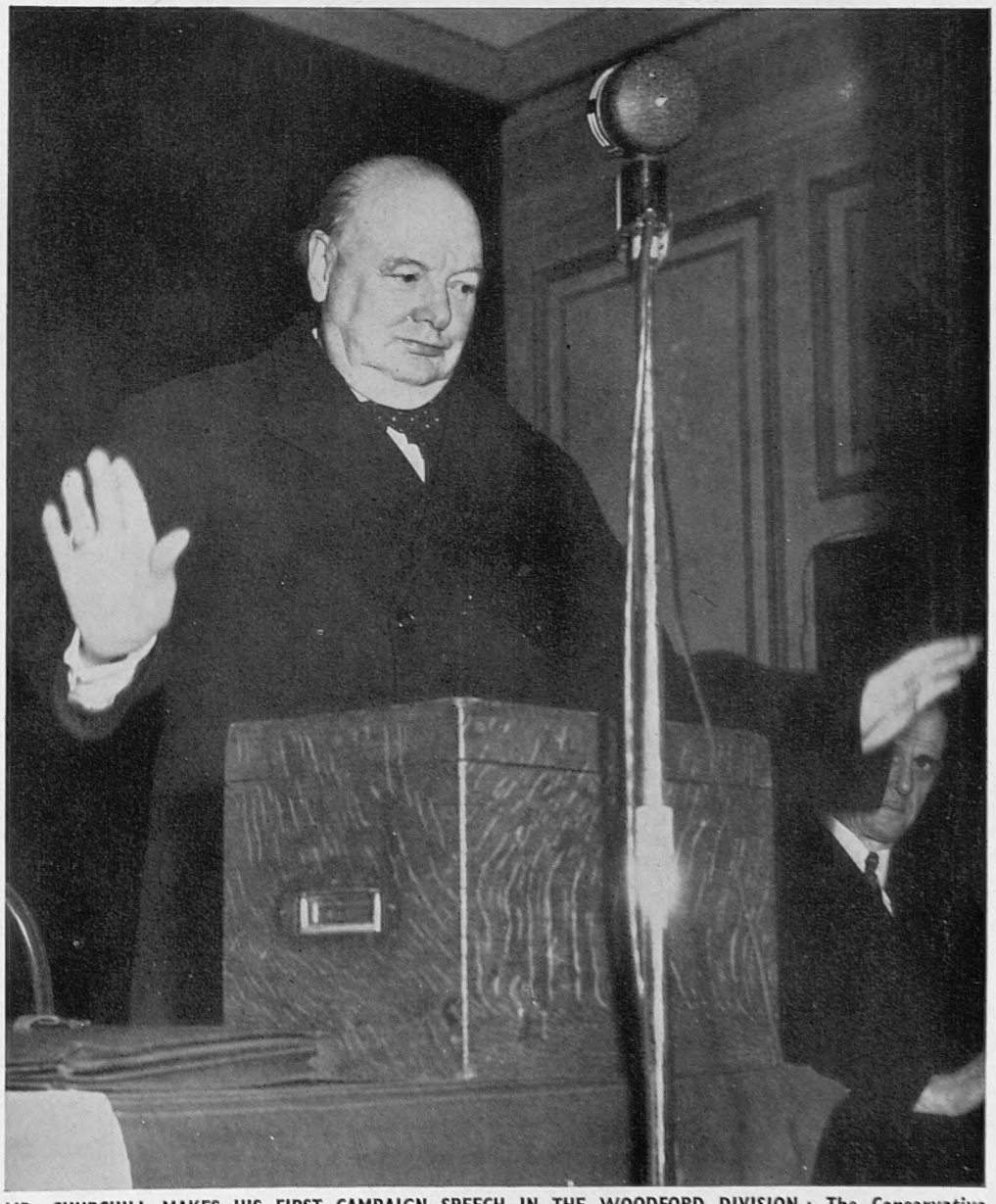
MR. ATTLEE AND HIS PREDECESSOR IN WEST WALTHAMSTOW: The Premier with Mr. V. McEntee, the retired Member. As Mr. Attlee entered the hall the audience rose and cheered. The meeting lasted seventy-five minutes and was confined to members of the Management Committee of West Walthamstow Labour Party

With nomination day looming ahead, leaders of the political parties, like their followers, have repaired to their constituencies and the battle of the hustings is on. Mr. Churchill and Mr. Attlee are both contesting Essex constituencies, and last week they were both formally adopted as candidates. Together with all other candidates, they will be officially nominated on February 13. With the alteration of constituency boundaries only about sixty divisions remain as they were. One of them is West Walthamstow, where Mr. Attlee's predecessor, had a substantial majority in 1945. Mr. Churchill, with a Socialist, a Liberal and a Communist to oppose him, is also fairly sure of his seat, and in his adoption speech he indicated let them all come and split the hostile vote, the more the merrier

## MR. ATTLEE and MR. CHURCHILL ATTEND ADOPTION MEETINGS

### The Party Leaders in their Constituencies

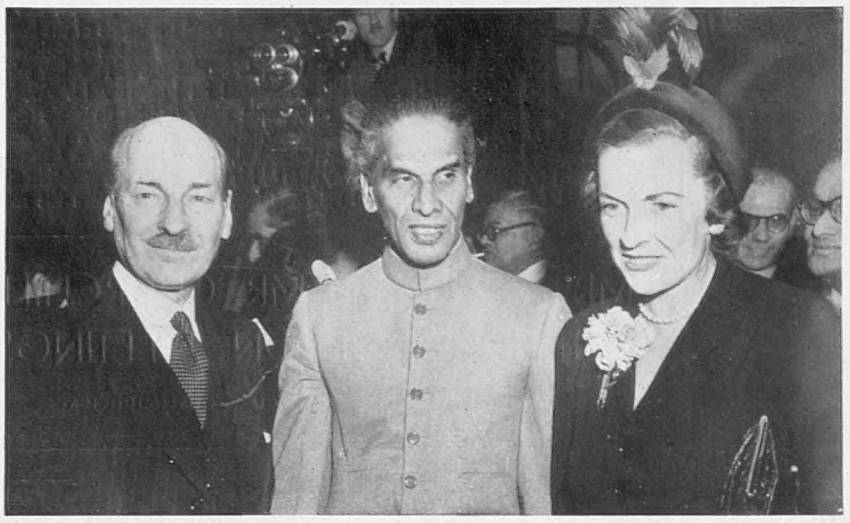
THE MAN WHO WILL OPPOSE MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL IN THE WOODFORD DIVISION OF ESSEX: Mr. Howard Davies addressing the Liberal Party Assembly in the Kingsway Hall in London



MR. CHURCHILL MAKES HIS FIRST CAMPAIGN SPEECH IN THE WOODFORD DIVISION: The Conservative leader outlining his policy following his adoption as candidate at a meeting held at Woodford County High School for Girls. In the Woodford Division Mr. Churchill has a Socialist, a Communist as well as a Liberal opponent. On purely local grounds he said he was very content that they should "all come and divide the hostile vote among themselves." In 1945 Mr. Churchill was faced by an Independent who polled the surprising number of 10,488 votes

1. BOUQUET FROM BRIAN : Her Majesty the Queen arriving at Paston Grammar School

2. BEAKERS AND TEST-TUBES : The Queen in the laboratory at Paston Grammar School



3. REPUBLIC DAY IN LONDON : Mr. Attlee, Mr. Menon and Lady Mountbatten

4. KING FAROUK AS GUEST : With Rear-Admiral Earl Mountbatten aboard H.M.S. *Liverpool*

**1 and 2. THE QUEEN VISITS PASTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL :** Archbishop Tenison (whom Swift spoke of as a very dull man who had a horror of anything like levity in the clergy, but none the less a great Archbishop of Canterbury), Horatio Nelson and his brother William, and William Hoste, one of Nelson's sea captains, were all pupils of the Paston Grammar School, which has a worthy place in the annals of East Anglian education. Last week, Her Majesty the Queen paid an extensive visit to the school, driving over from Sandringham for the occasion. She toured the school with the Headmaster, Lt.-Col. K. N. Marshall, and at the entrance was presented with a bouquet by thirteen-year-old Brian Easlen, son of the Postmaster at Happisburgh. In the laboratory the Queen watched boys engaged on various experiments.

**3. INDIA BECOMES A REPUBLIC :** To mark the new status of the Dominion, which becomes a Republic within the Commonwealth, her nationals in England, and many people prominent in public life, gathered last week at India House. The host was Mr. Krishna Menon, the High Commissioner, and among his guests were Mr. Attlee and Countess Mountbatten, last Vicereine of India. The High Commissioner read to the audience the Proclamation of Republican status which had been made at New Delhi a few hours earlier, and by way of a souvenir everyone on leaving the building was handed a folio copy of the proclamation set in Old English type. An impressive occasion was brought to an end by the singing of the new Indian National Anthem, Tagore's "Lord of the Heart of the People," which has been set to music by Herbert Murrill, the assistant head of the B.B.C.'s Music Department. Here is the first verse as translated by the author, who was for long famed as a fighter in the Indian Nationalist cause :—

*Thou art the ruler of the minds of all people,*
*Thou dispenser of India's destiny,*
*Thy name rouses the hearts of the Punjab, Sind, Guirat and Maratha, of Dravid, Orissa and Bengal.*
*It echoes in the hills of the Vindhyas and Himalayas,*
*mingles in the music of Jumna and Ganges,*
*and is chanted by the waves of the Indian Sea.*
*They pray for thy blessing and sing thy praise,*
*Thou dispenser of India's destiny.*
*Victory, Victory, Victory to thee.*

## PERSONAL APPEARANCES
### AT HOME AND ABROAD

**4 and 5. KING FAROUK AS EARL MOUNTBATTEN'S GUEST :** The visit of the cruiser *Liverpool* to Alexandria was quite an occasion. Rear-Admiral Earl Mountbatten, in his capacity as the Commander-in-Chief of the 1st Cruiser Squadron, extending a luncheon invitation to the Egyptian King. The King travelled from Ras El Tin Palace in a Royal barge escorted by two pinnaces from the cruiser. All ships in the harbour were dressed, and sirens were sounded. The *Liverpool* fired a salute of twenty-one guns, and the Egyptian National Anthem was played as the King stepped on board. After being received by the British Ambassador, Sir Ronald Campbell, and by Lord Mountbatten, the King inspected a guard of honour of the Royal Marines. His Majesty lunched in the Admiral's cabin, where two pipers of the Cameron Highlanders played during the meal. King Farouk was accompanied by the Chief of the Royal Cabinet, Hussein Sirry Pasha. At the end of January King Farouk received Mr. Bevin, en route to England from Colombo, and Britain's Foreign Minister lunched with King Farouk and the Duke of Edinburgh at the Koupba Palace. Mr. Bevin later had a conversation with the new Egyptian Prime Minister, Nahas Pasha. At an evening reception at the British Embassy in Cairo, which was also attended by the Duke of Edinburgh, Mr. Bevin met many prominent Egyptians and members of the British Community.

**6 and 7. THE ROYAL VISIT TO CRAWLEY :** Princess Elizabeth became the first member of the Royal family to pay a visit to one of the new towns

5. KING FAROUK AS HOST : The King with the Duke of Edinburgh and Mr. Ernest Bevin

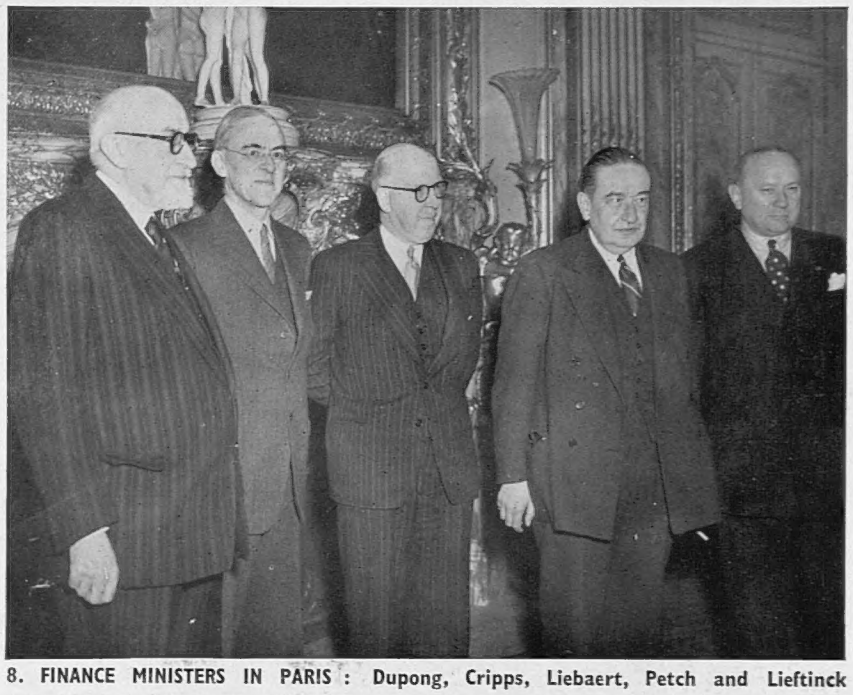
6. PRINCESS ELIZABETH AT CRAWLEY: Signing the visitors' book at the George Inn

7. TALKING WITH NEW TOWN WORKERS: Princess Elizabeth during her visit to Crawley

when she visited Crawley to open and name a new main road that is to run through the industrial area. The Princess spent nearly an hour after the opening ceremony walking round parts of the town that are to be developed and talking to workmen, meeting contractors, and visiting some of the inhabitants of the first houses occupied. In the afternoon she planted a maple tree to commemorate the close wartime association between Crawley and the Canadian Army. Princess Elizabeth was met at the Sussex boundary by the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Lieutenant of the county, and was received at the new town by Mr. Silkin, Minister of Town and Country Planning, and Sir Thomas Bennett, chairman of the development corporation. At the initial ceremony on a canopied dais surrounded by a barrier of braziers her Royal Highness named the new road "Manor Royal." Mr. Silkin said that it was a great day in the history of the new towns. During the past three years there had been many difficulties, but they were at last beginning to see the results of the efforts made. In a short dedication service the Bishop of Chichester prayed for those who had planned and designed the town, for the contractors and workmen, and for the people who were coming to live in the town.

**8 and 9. PREPARING FOR MR. HOFFMAN:** Five West European Finance Ministers met in Paris last week to hold preliminary discussions before the arrival of Mr. Hoffman, the head of the Economic Co-operation Administration. They were M. Dupong (Luxembourg), Sir Stafford Cripps (Great Britain), M. Liebaert (Belgium), M. Petch (France), and Mr. Lieftinck (Holland). On these meetings, and those with Mr. Hoffman which followed, not only did the whole future of Marshall Aid depend, but perhaps also the economic development of Western Europe. Mr. Hoffman's visit was considered in some respects untimely, owing to the proximity of the General Election in Britain, but apparently O.E.E.C.'s Second Interim Report must come out on time. The main item on the agenda before the Ministers has been the Liberalisation of European trade, followed closely by the no less complex subject of intra-European payments. One of the big questions which has arisen in Paris has been that of strengthening the O.E.E.C. organisation by the appointment of a Director-General. This question was virtually shelved at the first meeting in Paris last week, as none of the European representatives seemed keen on it and some were very strongly opposed. On the other hand, however, it seemed that Mr. Hoffman was intent on an effective and more spectacular move than that of having the President or one of the Vice-Presidents spend a day or a couple of days in Paris each week. Member countries do not see what a Director-General could do if his functions strictly respected the provisions of the charter regarding sovereignty. For a long while M. Spaak's name was canvassed in relation to this post, but he has made it known that he would not accept even if it were offered to him. On the question of the Liberalisation of Trade, it seems that the Finibel group (France, Italy and Benelux) have been making no progress. The main stumbling block, it is said, is the relationship of the group with West Germany. Members apparently disagree sharply.

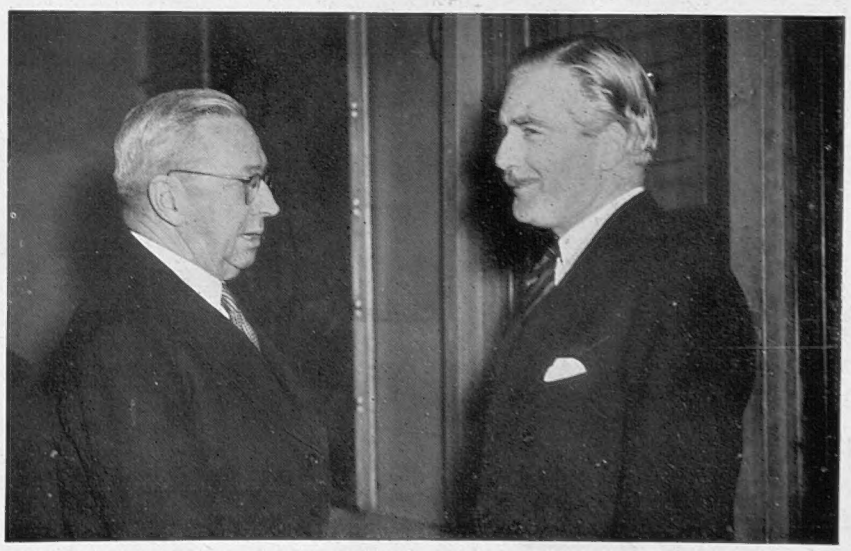
**10 and 11. AUSTRALIA DAY IN LONDON:** Australia celebrated the 162nd anniversary of the arrival of Governor Phillip's fleet in elaborate fashion, and Mr. Menzies at Canberra received messages of congratulation from throughout the Commonwealth and many foreign countries. In the morning there was an Australia Day service at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and it was after that event that the picture was taken of Lord and Lady Gowrie with Lord and Lady Bruce. Both the former Governor-General and the veteran Australian statesman are old friends. Later in the day there was a reception at Australia House, and in the evening the Australia Club held a dinner at the Savoy. Mr. Anthony Eden was present at both the reception and the dinner. At the dinner there were vociferous cheers at the mention of the name of Mr. Menzies, the new Liberal Prime Minister, but Mr. Eden, in his speech, followed in the footsteps of Mr. Noel Baker, Secretary for Commonwealth Relations, who pointed out that at this juncture it behoved all politicians to walk, like Agag, warily. In the broadcast from Australia Mr. Menzies emphasised the importance of Australia's membership of the British Commonwealth, and pleaded for vigorous constructive co-operation between the countries of the Commonwealth. "Patriotism is not a dead virtue," the Premier declared, in addressing the Australian Natives Association, "but something that Australia and the rest of the world need."



8. FINANCE MINISTERS IN PARIS: Dupong, Cripps, Liebaert, Petch and Lieftinck

9. SIR STAFFORD IN PARIS: The Chancellor at the Brussels Treaty Finance talks

10. ON AUSTRALIA DAY IN LONDON: Lord and Lady Gowrie with Lord and Lady Bruce

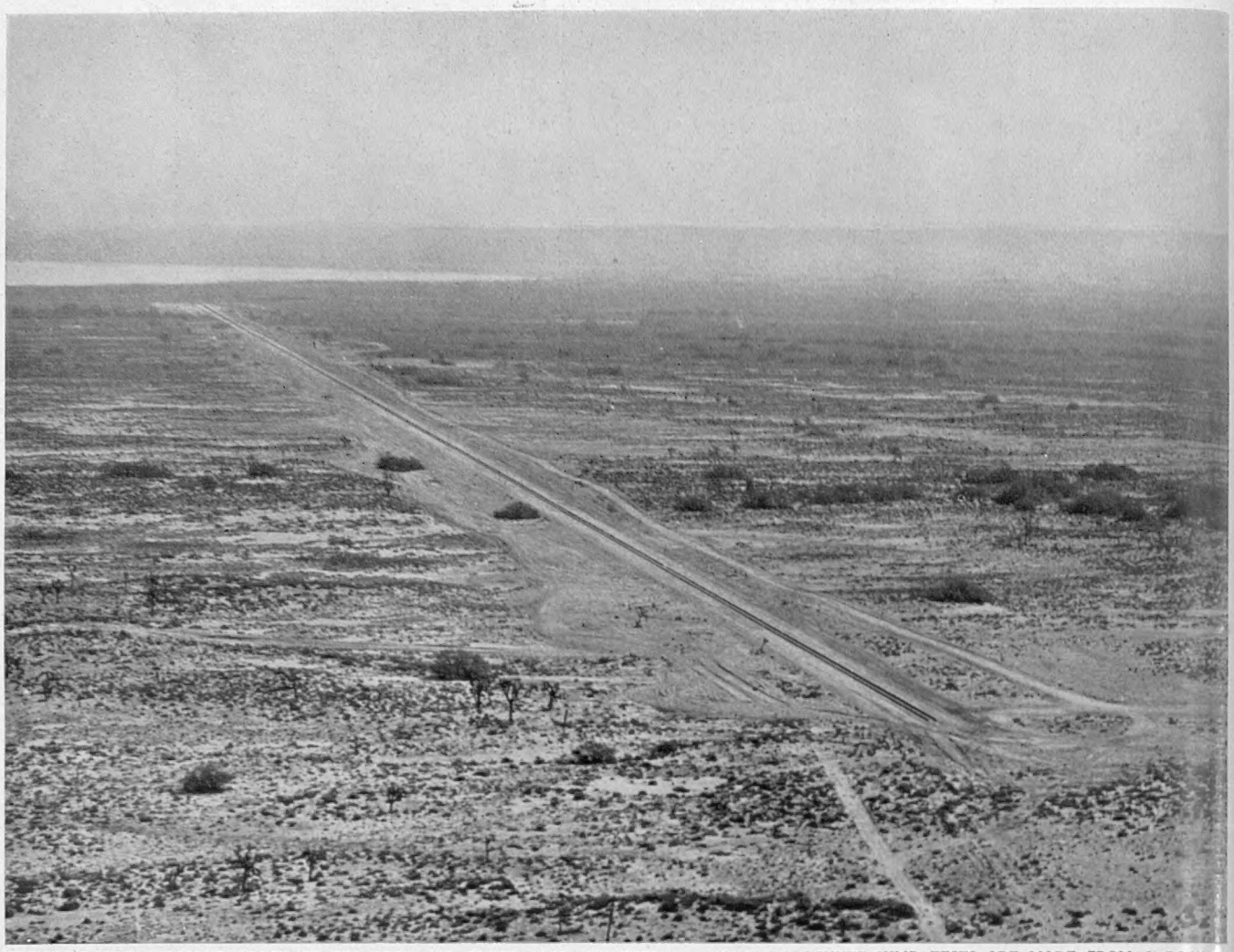


11. MIGHEL MEETS EDEN: The Acting High Commissioner with the former Foreign Minister

# SUPERSONIC PARACHUTE JUMP TESTS

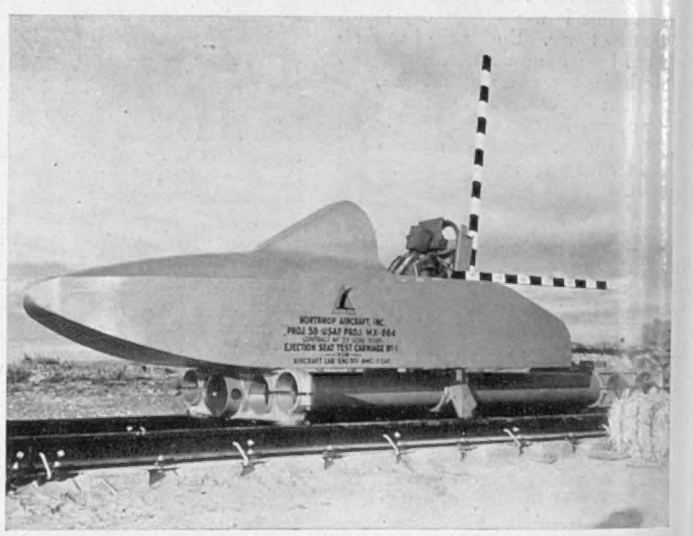
## Further Experiments at Edwards Air Force Base

Last Month THE SPHERE published pictures of the mock air-crash machine in use at Edwards (formerly Muroc) Air Force Base. Volunteers took part in the experiments which provided valuable data. In the tests of the ejection seat from a cockpit travelling at speed, dummy figures are used and the seat and its mock passenger are provided with elaborate recording instruments. Up to fifteen rockets propel the streamlined sled down a 10,000-ft. railroad track at speeds up to 1,100 m.p.h. When the peak velocity is reached, about halfway down the track, the remotely actuated ejection seat catapults a dummy into the supersonic windstream. Once the dummy is thrown clear, a series of decelerator rockets, mounted at the front of the sled, come into action and stop the vehicle. The test apparatus, developed by engineers of the Air Material Command's Aircraft Laboratory and Northrop Aircraft Incorporated, of Hawthorne, California, is designed to determine the speed limitations of the present ejection seat and to discover what further protection is required for a pilot's face and body when he leaves an aircraft travelling at supersonic speeds.



**THE TWO-MILE STRAIGHT TRACK AT EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA, WHERE PARACHUTE JUMP TESTS ARE MADE FROM A ROCKET-PROPELLED TEST SLED :** The tests are being made to collect data on flying safety devices. A dummy figure was used to test the ejection seat at speeds up to 1,100 m.p.h. from a streamlined 2,300-lb. rocket-powered sled made by Northrop Aircraft Inc.

**TESTING THE EJECTION SEAT :** The occupant was, in this case, a dummy and the ejection was made during a static test. In actual tests, the sled will be driven up to 1,100 m.p.h., when the seat is ejected and instruments will record what happens to it. The bales of hay were placed on the track to cushion the fall of the seat



**THE STREAMLINED ROCKET-POWERED TEST SLED WHICH CAN REACH 1,100 M.P.H. :** The vertical and horizontal posts are used as co-ordinating guides in interpreting photographic records of the ejection seat trajectory. With the sled travelling at high speed, the ejection seat can be released and tossed into the air while elaborate instruments record the effect on it and on its dummy passenger

**INSTALLING ROCKETS AT THE REAR OF THE SLED :** The cockpit of the sled has been built to simulate the pilot's compartment of the United States Air Force's Northrop Scorpion F-89 all-weather interceptor, twin-jet successor to the Black Widow. Retarding rockets, mounted on the front of the sled, stop the vehicle before it reaches the end of the track

# ROYAL NEEDLEWORK

## Queen Mary Gives to the Nation a Gros Point Carpet of Her Own Making

QUEEN MARY'S CARPET, WHICH SHE HAS PRESENTED TO THE NATION TO BE SOLD FOR DOLLARS: Last week, Mr. Attlee accepted the gift on behalf of the nation. Its sale has been entrusted to the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr. C. F. Cobbold; the Chairman of the Dollar Export Board, Sir Cecil Weir; and the Dowager Lady Reading, Chairman of the Women's Home Industries. It is to be shown at the Victoria and Albert Museum for two or more weeks from next Wednesday before being sent to Canada and the United States

Queen Mary has been working on the beautiful *gros point* carpet, which is illustrated on this page, since 1941. The eighteenth-century design is of twelve panels of birds and flowers on beige backgrounds of various tones, which are surrounded by a border of detached blossoms. The entire making of the carpet, including the blending of the colours, is the work of Queen Mary, except for the joining together of the sections and the drawing of the designs, which were done by the Royal School of Needlework at South Kensington. In February, 1948, Her Majesty gave six *gros point* chairs, which she had made, to the Queen's District Nursing Fund. These were sold in America for 10,000 dollars to Mrs. Edward Harkness, who presented them to the Metropolitan Museum in New York. When Queen Mary decided to give the carpet to the nation she expressed the desire that it should be sold in Canada or the United States so that the dollars received from its sale should go to the National Exchequer. The design of the carpet is in the traditional English eighteenth-century style, some of the panels being based on examples in the Victoria and Albert Museum. It was originally intended for a member of the Royal family, but when the dollar crisis became acute, Queen Mary decided that it should be a dollar export. Her only condition concerning its sale was that it must be sold to a public institution, and not to a private buyer. Queen Mary had already made a smaller rug which she uses at Marlborough House.

DISPLAYING THE ROYAL NEEDLEWORK: A close-up of one of the panels, of which there are twelve, in the carpet, which measures 6 ft. 9½ ins. by 10 ft. 2 ins. The panels, which are decorated with birds and flowers on beige backgrounds, bear her Majesty's signature, "Mary R." The design is traditional English eighteenth-century, and was executed in *gros point* needlework. *On the right*—A general view of the Press conference, when the carpet was exhibited, at Burlington House

# LABOUR'S ELECTORAL MACHINE

## *The Men of Transport House Who are Preparing for the Battle at the Polls*

At the beginning of January, in four headquarters in London, there rolled into high gear four political party machines, those of the Socialists, the Conservatives, the Liberals and the Communists, at least two of them with high hopes of achieving victory at the polls.

Opposing Lord Woolton's organisation at Abbey House, the Conservative Central Office, is Morgan Phillips's no less organised staff at Transport House, and these pictures show Mr. Phillips, Mr. Windle and some of their co-workers in action at the headquarters in Smith Square.

Such is the constitution of the Labour Party, with each constituency operating its own electoral machine through an agent, and each area organisation taking some of the load, Transport House is left free to exercise an overriding control, dealing with such questions as candidature, national propaganda and press relations; with the main lines of policy rather than with the questions of ways and means, finance in particular. In London, for example, the London Labour Party in Westminster Bridge Road exercises this area control.

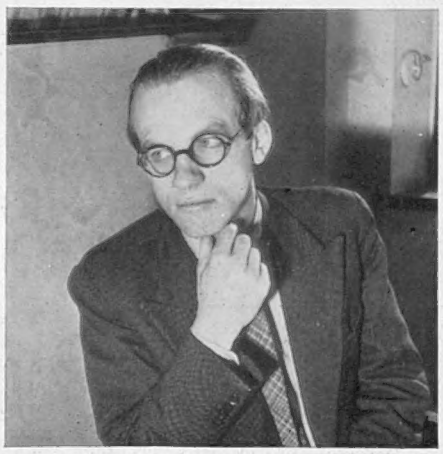
Organising the 1950 election is a more difficult matter than ever before, because the Representation of the People Act has not only altered constituency boundaries, but entirely altered "the rules of the game." Expenses now have to be much more closely watched, and for the first time a limitation is set on the number of cars used on polling day. This has been a particular headache for Transport House, one demanding the preparation of vital directives. In fact, a whole volume of instructions on the conduct of elections has had to be brought out for agents and candidates, and this has long since been distributed to all concerned.

The two key men in the Labour Party machine at Transport House are Mr. Morgan Phillips, the Secretary of the Party, a Socialist who came up the hard way and who eventually won a scholarship to the National Labour College, and Mr. Richard Windle, the burly, white-haired National Agent who has been organising elections for nearly thirty years. Both men are party stalwarts of long standing, and many may remember Mr. Windle's work as a British representative on the United Nations Commission organised to observe the Greek Elections in 1946.

Altogether the staff at Transport House numbers 100. Other key figures are Denis Healy, the thirty-two-year-old secretary of the international department, and Arthur Bax, who heads the press department. Then there is Michael Young, who as head of the research department has been responsible for the Labour Party's *magnum opus*, the massive 500-page *Speaker's Handbook*. Meanwhile down in the basement of Transport House the publishing department is at work, sending out handbooks, declarations of policy, such as the manifesto "Let Us Win Through Together," and a host of other literature, much of it subsidised, so as not to place too great a burden on some of the smaller divisional parties. As the days go by the party machine will be at full stretch, only matched by the activities at Abbey House and at the very active Liberal headquarters where the spirit of revival seems to be so much in the air.

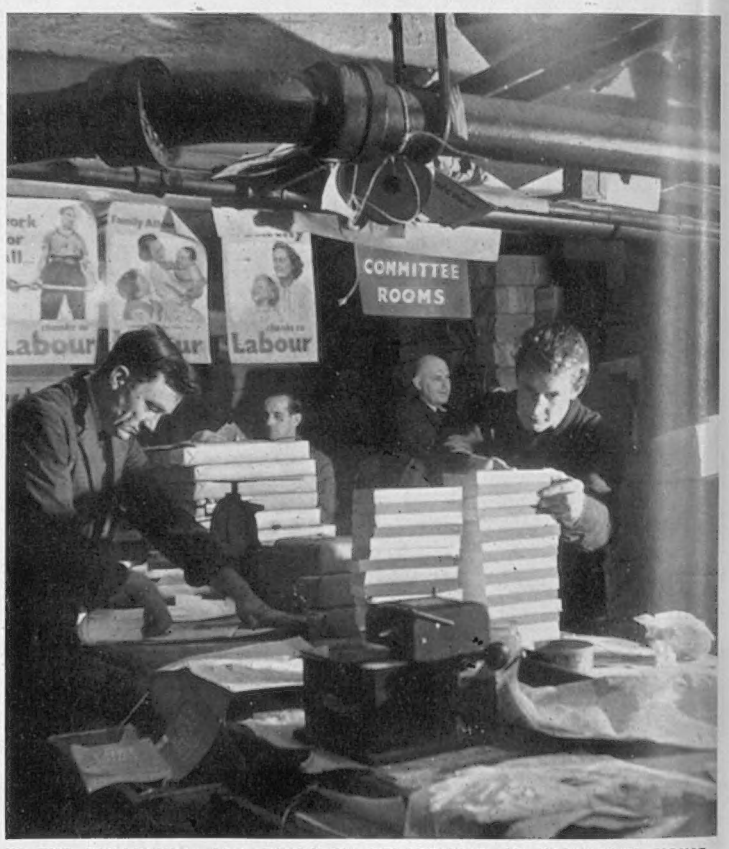
**MORGAN PHILLIPS, THE LABOUR PARTY'S SECRETARY:** He was born in Aberdare and at fourteen years of age he was working in the pits. To-day Morgan Phillips controls Labour's electoral machine. He is confident that Labour will achieve victory at the polls

**THE NATIONAL AGENT FOR THE LABOUR PARTY:** Mr. Richard Windle has much to do with the interviewing of possible candidates and with giving approval to those selected by the various Constituency Labour Parties



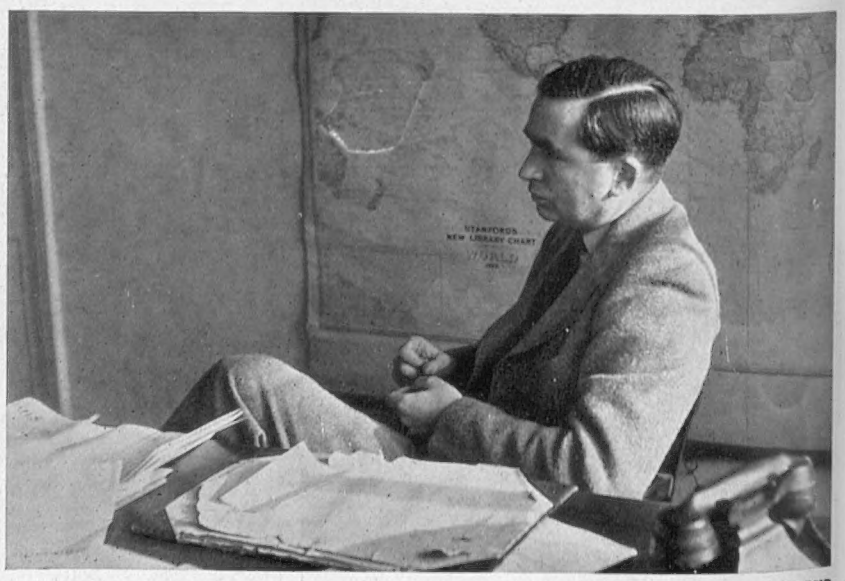
**MICHAEL YOUNG, THE SECRETARY OF THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT:** He is the author of much of Labour's propaganda literature

**TRANSPORT HOUSE, THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE LABOUR PARTY:** From the publishing department in the basement twelve tons of election propaganda are now being distributed to the nation every day, and upstairs in the offices, which the Party rents from the Transport and General Workers' Union Morgan Phillips and Richard Windle preside over their well-organised machine




**IN THE PUBLISHING AND DESPATCH DEPARTMENT AT TRANSPORT HOUSE:** A busy scene as books, pamphlets, posters and other literature is prepared for despatch to Divisional Labour Parties. The worker on the right is handling copies of the 500-page *Speaker's Handbook*, a vast tome published at 2s., and, as the name implies, designed to give the political orator his ammunition

**ARTHUR BAX, THE CHIEF PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER:** His department may answer as many as thirty questions an hour at peak periods in the working day, some of them straightforward requests for information regarding election personalities and some of them trick questions on policy that have to be dealt with with the utmost care



**DENIS HEALY, SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF THE LABOUR PARTY:** This graduate of Balliol, where he took a Double First in Mods and Greats, is the author of such foreign-policy pamphlets as *Cards on the Table* and *Feet on the Ground*. Mr. Healy speaks four languages fluently and spends much of his time abroad

THE ELABORATE DOCKSIDE RECEPTION STATION NOW TAKING SHAPE AT SOUTHAMPTON: The new terminal building, it is hoped, will be ready this summer and, with its luxurious appointments, will do much to ease those moments when the traveller, stepping from the superb comfort of the "Queen" liners, comes ashore in England to face the passport officers and the inevitable ordeal of the Customs. From the pent-house roof of the terminal building visitors will be able to watch the arrival and departure of the great liners, while downstairs the luxury halls and lounges will serve as a pleasant meeting-place for friends. Part of the liner *Queen Mary* can be seen in the background of this picture at the berth opposite the terminal. The building is in some ways reminiscent of the terminal built at Cherbourg before the war

# THE NEW GATEWAY TO BRITAIN

## Southampton's Ocean Terminal Nears Completion

LAYING THE RAILWAY TRACK IN FRONT OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING'S RAILWAY STATION: Here the boat-trains will be drawn up and the passengers will entrain in comfort

AT WORK ON THE ROOF OF THE TERMINAL: Construction work is going ahead rapidly, and it is hoped that the terminal will be ready for the start of the summer invasion of American visitors

# THE BERLIN SCENE

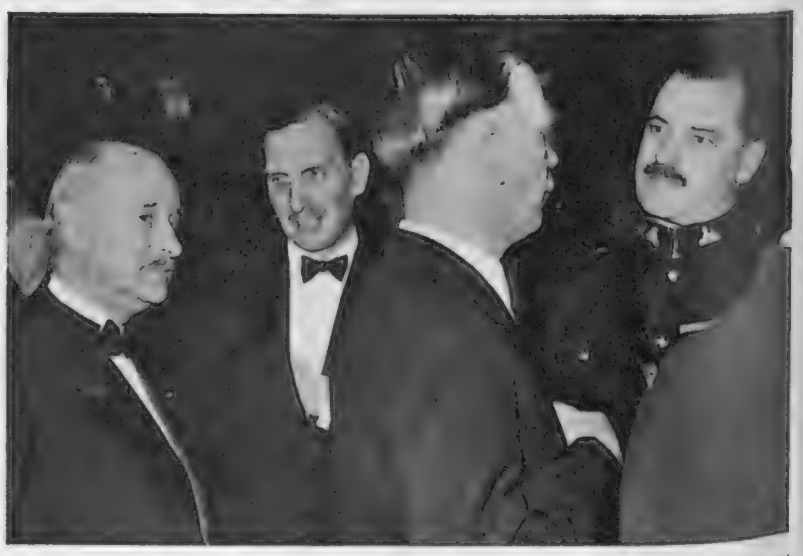
Trouble at the Autobahn Check-points; Refugees from Soviet Zone Concentration Camps; The Allied Kommandatura Meets at British Headquarters

**TURNED BACK BY THE RUSSIANS: Lorry-drivers report at the U.S. check-point on the Berlin Autobahn at Hemlin after being turned back at Marienborn, on the Western-Soviet Zone border.** Restricted rail services and stricter examination of drivers' documents at road check-points were used as reprisals for the occupation by West Berlin police of the former Soviet-controlled railway headquarters. The requisitioning was effected to give the Magistrat the 600-room building for office space. After the U.S. Commandant, Major-General Taylor, had restored the building to the railway authority, a full train service was promised, but the Russians still held eleven lorryloads of scrap metal which had been stopped at a Soviet check-point over a week before

**A CHECK AT THE AMERICAN ZONE BORDER: A truck loaded with furniture which was turned back at Marienborn, on the British-Soviet Zone border, stops at Hemlin for examination by American military police and West Sector German police**

**GERMANS RETURN TO WEST BERLIN FROM SOVIET ZONE CONCENTRATION CAMPS: The scene at West Berlin station as two released prisoners arrived.** Following the announcement by the Soviet High Commissioner in Germany, V. L. Chuikov, of the disbanding of the three Soviet Zone concentration camps, and the release of some 15,000 inmates at a rate of 520 daily, some of the freed Germans have been arriving in Western Berlin. West German officials, however, consider the action disappointing, as nearly 14,000, accused of "sabotage" and "crimes against the Soviet Union," will be retained in East German prisons or, in more serious cases, transferred to camps in Russia

**FIRST MEAL IN THE WESTERN ZONE FOR RETURNED INMATES OF SOVIET-CONTROLLED CONCENTRATION CAMPS: The West Berlin Magistrat and the "Fighting Group Against Inhumanity" have arranged food and housing for those who live in the Soviet Zone and do not wish to return there**



**WEST GERMAN ALLIED HIGH COMMISSIONERS MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME IN BERLIN: *Left*—M. Arman Berard, Deputy French High Commissioner; M. François Poncet, French High Commissioner; and Major-General Jean Ganeval, French Sector Commandant in Berlin, at the meeting at British Headquarters. *Right*—M. Poncet, Mr. C. E. Steele, Deputy British High Commissioner, and General Sir Brian Robertson at a reception given by the High Commissioners after their meeting. Twelve Soviet officials were invited, but did not attend because they were "extremely busy in connection with railway troubles." (This followed the occupation of the Berlin headquarters of the Reichsbahn.)** The three High Commissioners discussed a report on the political, economic and financial aspects of the Berlin situation at their first meeting since the Allied High Commission came into existence last September. A statement was issued later recording the satisfaction of the High Commissioners at the good relationship existing between the Allied Kommandatura and the Berlin city authorities, who had assumed greatly increased responsibility with the coming into force of the Occupation Statute and whose responsibilities are expected to be further broadened under the new constitution for the city which is expected to come up for Allied acceptance during the next few weeks

A DENSE PALL OF BLACK SMOKE OVER THE BLAZING QUARTER OF KOWLOON CITY: The fire was the worst in the history of the colony of Hong Kong. It is estimated that 10,000 people were rendered homeless. Hundreds of squatters' huts, wooden semi-permanent buildings, a Chinese temple and a film studio were destroyed. The blaze was fanned by a stiff wind, and the closely-packed huts burned fiercely. British troops, R.A.F. men and civilian volunteers helped the Fire Brigade to fight the flames. Kowloon City lies on the mainland of China, opposite the island of Hong Kong, but in the British colonial area. Beyond it lie the Leased Territories, stretching away to the Chinese border, where the British sentries and the Communist guards come face to face

# 10,000 HOMELESS IN HONG KONG FIRE

## Flames Sweep Through Kowloon City in the Biggest Fire in the History of the Colony

FIRE-FIGHTING AMONG THE SHANTIES OF KOWLOON CITY: Firemen working on the edge of the blazing area. Owing to a strong wind the flames spread with rapidity among the tinder-dry buildings of this quarter

AN INFERNO WHICH DEFIED THE FIRE-FIGHTERS FOR MANY HOURS: *Left*—Volunteers helping men of the Kowloon Fire Brigade to fight the flames. *Right*—Black clouds of smoke rolling away into the distance from the burning buildings of Kowloon. Huts over an area of a square mile were destroyed. The bulk of the damage was done in the quarter of Kowloon City adjoining the Kaitak Airport where British fighter planes, charged with Hong Kong's defence, are stationed

*A Foreign Survey*

# NEWS FROM THE INDIAN REPUBLIC

The South African Commonwealth, Israel and the Continent of Europe

**THE BIRTH OF THE INDIAN REPUBLIC—THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL RETIRES AND THE FIRST PRESIDENT TAKES OVER: *Left*—Dr. Rajendra Prasad, who was installed Presi on "Republic Day" (January 26), taking the place of Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, who is seen (*right*) at a farewell ceremony held in Delhi at the end of his t**

On January 26 India became a Republic within the British Commonwealth of Nations, and the first President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a former President of the Indian National Congress, and a lifelong friend of Mahatma Gandhi, took office amid nation-wide good wishes. There was abundant goodwill, too, for Mr. Rajagopalachari, the last holder of the historic office of Governor-General, whose last act was to read a proclamation announcing the birth of the Republic of India. Mr. Attlee and his Cabinet colleagues welcomed the new Constitution in a message to Pandit Nehru, and the King sent messages to the retiring Governor-General and the incoming President. Throughout India on Republic Day there were mass meetings and flag-hoisting ceremonies, and Mr. Prasad drove in state through the streets of Delhi to a ceremony at the Irwin Stadium. Rajendra Prasad is a vegetarian, wears coarse homespun clothing, and believes (as he said in a broadcast from Gandhi's hut at Sevagram during a recent Pacifist Conference) in "peace positive, good will in action." Before his election the new Presi announced the choice of Tagore's "Lord of the Heart of People" as the Indian Republic's National Anthem. In the Republic the symbol of the three lions of Asoka will replace symbol of the Crown on flags, crests and badges of the Army Navy and Air Force; also on banknotes. Asoka became K India in 264 B.C., conquering and ruling the whole sub-conti

**TRADITIONAL CEREMONIAL AT THE OPENING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT: The Governor-General of the Union, the Rt. Hon. G. Brand van Zyl, and Mrs. van Zyl passing the guard of honour composed of naval and Air Force units before inaugurating the third session of the Union's tenth Parliament**

**DRIVING TO THE STATE OPENING: The Rt. Hon. G. Brand van Governor-General of South Africa, and Mrs. van Zyl arriving at House of Assembly, Cape Town, for the inauguration of the Parliamentary session.** The session has started stormily with General S moving a vote of no confidence in the Malan Government. General S contended that the Nationalists were responsible for the grave deteri in relations not only between non-Europeans and Europeans, but between the two sections of the European population. The Governm racial policies, he said, had disturbed and might alienate their friends ov

**THE VANGUARD OF HOLY YEAR PILGRIMS IN JERUSALEM: They are seen waiting at the demarcation line between Arab and Israeli territory before setting out on a visit to the Holy Places.** The pilgrims are members of a Roman Catholic advance party which has gone out to the Holy Land to determine what facilities will be available for pilgrims generally during the Holy Year, both in Israel and Hashemite Jordan

**CATHOLIC PILGRIMS IN NAZARETH: The Rev. Romano Mochiutti, of the Orie Congregation of the Roman Catholic Church, celebrating Mass in the Church of Annunciation in Nazareth.** Twenty-three pilgrims were present at the Mass, and they found the Military Governor of Nazareth had placed all facilities at their disposal. It seems visiting priests during Holy Year will be able to hold Masses whenever they may

A FRANCISCAN FRIAR IS INVESTED PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM: The bearded Patriarch Alberto Gori bestowing his first blessing after his investiture at the Vatican as Roman Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem by Cardinal Canali (left)

WAR-WOUNDED ONCE AGAIN DEMONSTRATE IN THE STREETS OF PARIS FOR AN INCREASE IN THEIR PENSIONS: The veterans staged a sit-down strike in the Place du Théâtre Français, stopping all traffic during the rush-hour to draw attention to grievances

THE MOTHER OF THE NOTORIOUS SICILIAN BANDIT, GIULIANO, RETURNS TO HER COOKING-POTS ON RELEASE FROM PALERMO GAOL: Maria Lombardo seen at her home following the suspension of the last two years of her sentence. She was implicated in a kidnapping plot and served two years and two months in prison. Meanwhile, her will-o'-the-wisp son, the dare-devil Giuliano, continues at large among the Sicilian mountains, living the life of a Robin Hood, stealing from the rich and befriending the poor

GERMAN RIGHT-WING ELEMENTS IN THE ASCENDANT: Franz Richter (on left), the former head of the German Right Party, and Dr. Heinrich Leuchtgens, a banker, who share leadership of the German Reich Party which was recently established at Kassel, in the United States Zone of Germany. The Rightists met in a cinema hall attached to a hotel on the outskirts of Kassel. Communists heckled the meeting, but it was apparent that there was considerable support for the new Party

TO TOKYO, TOO, THE FASHION SPREADS: The simple walk-out, favourite weapon of Soviet Conference delegates, has found its way East. Here Russian Lieut.-General Kuzma Derevyanko returns the salute of a military policeman as he walks out of a Four-Power Allied Council meeting in Tokyo. He refused to take part in a discussion on the disposition of 376,000 Japanese prisoners of war still unaccounted for

THE PRO-GRECIAN CAMPAIGN IN CYPRUS GATHERS PACE: Flags decking the houses in Nicosia's main thoroughfare during the plebiscite prepared by the Greek Orthodox Church as part of their plan to secure union with Greece. The Communist-dominated Akel Party has also been working in the same direction, but the politicians and the churchmen do not agree. The hierarchy of the Church of Cyprus claim that Akel does not truly speak for the Greek population. Ever since the close of the Second World War the status of Cyprus has been in the balance. Four-fifths of the island's inhabitants are Greeks, and whether of the Right or the Left, the Greeks appear to desire union with Greece. The Archbishop of Cyprus leads the Right Wing movement

# THE PANCHEN LAMA, THE TIBETAN CLAIMANT

## THE CAMERA SURVEYS THE WORLD

*On left*—**THE PANCHEN LAMA, A PAWN IN THE GAME OF CENTRAL ASIAN POLITICS : This twelve-year-old boy, who has been living in exile at Kumbum Lamassery in North-West China, is supposed to be the spiritual ruler over 3,000,000 Tibetans, but so long as the present regime remains in Lhassa it is doubtful if he will ever return to his monastery at Tashi Lumpo.** The Panchen Lama should share rulership of Tibet with the Dalai Lama, now a youth of fifteen. Standing behind the Panchen Lama in this picture is his Regent, and beside him are his two spiritual advisers. At the moment the Chinese People's Republic of Maotze and his Communists are at loggerheads with the authorities at Lhassa, and there are indications that the Republic would not be averse to swallowing Tibet with its population of 3,000,000, a fifth of them monks. In this event it might well be that the Panchen Lama would rule in Lhassa as a puppet of the Communists. At one time the Panchen Lama and his Regent were pawns in the hands of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, who wished to increase his authority in Tibet. Now Panchen and Regent have apparently changed masters, accepting Maotze since the Communist armies marched into Chinghai Province, where the Panchen's retreat at Kumbum is situated. The Panchen Lama has been described as a bright and intelligent youth, but apparently he is surrounded always by his aged advisers, never by youths of his own age. His predecessor fled from Tibet to China in 1924 and died mysteriously eleven years later when he started on a return journey

# A RUSSIAN SCHOONER IN THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE

**THE RUSSIAN SCHOONER "CHIAKA" PASSES THROUGH THE GAILLARD CUT : In normal times this passage of the Panama would arouse little attention, but recently there were dark rumours in the American Press that the ship, which was on her way from the Baltic to Vladivostok, was passing dangerously near the area where American warships were due to carry out manœuvres. One rumour had it that the *Chiaka* was equipped with a far more powerful radio set than she required as a fishing schooner. The simplest explanation of the *Chiaka*'s voyage is that she is one of three Russian schooners which are to fish in Japanese waters**

# INAUGURATING THE DAMODA PILE BRIDGE, IN BIHAR

**THE FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN CROSSES THE TEMPORARY PILE BRIDGE OVER THE DAMODA RIVER, IN BIHAR:** The pile bridge has been built in order to replace the steel structure damaged by fire in the Second World War and in due course it is hoped to restore the steel bridge. Bridging operations in Bihar are only possible in the dry months between November and May, and this has tended to slow up the work on the Damoda. In June, the danger to bridges of this nature is considerable. The people clinging to footboards of the train are non-paying passengers

## A LARDER IN THE PRIBILOFS

***On right*—SEALSKINS AND MEAT DRYING IN AN OPEN-AIR LARDER ON THE ISLAND OF ST. PAUL, IN THE PRIBILOF GROUP:** Racks such as this are used by the Aleut natives to keep the meat and skins out of reach of dogs and wild animals. This picture was taken during the last American relief expedition to the Pribilofs, a group lying remote in the Bering Sea in the far north of the Pacific. The Pribilofs have 5,000,000 seal inhabitants and the Aleut natives and the few white inhabitants earn their living by catching seals and producing seal meal, oil and blubber in their by-products plant. Very strict American regulation of the sealing industry keeps up the seal population

## TUNING UP THE CARILLON

**Below—ADDING TO THE MEDLEY OF CITY SOUNDS: Mr. J. H. Knight, a mechanic, working on the mechanisation of the electric carillon in the tower of London's Royal Exchange, now restored after a silence of ten years and reinaugurated by the Lady Mayoress of London.** The chimes have had a chequered history and have indeed shared the vicissitudes of the Royal Exchange. A "clock and dialls" installed in Sir Thomas Gresham's lifetime was destroyed with the first Royal Exchange in the Great Fire of 1666, and another clock with a chime of ten bells was installed soon after the second Exchange was opened in 1669. The chimes played tunes which were changed every six weeks, and in 1745 it was reported that the Lord Mayor had "taken notice that the clock and chimes had for some time past gone very uncertain and irregular and ought to be kept in a better manner." The chimes were stopped in the 1914-18 war. They were again set in motion in 1921 until silenced in 1939. The number of tunes has now been reduced to sixteen, selected under the headings, national tunes, carols, and traditional airs

## ICE-BOUND BLACKBIRDS

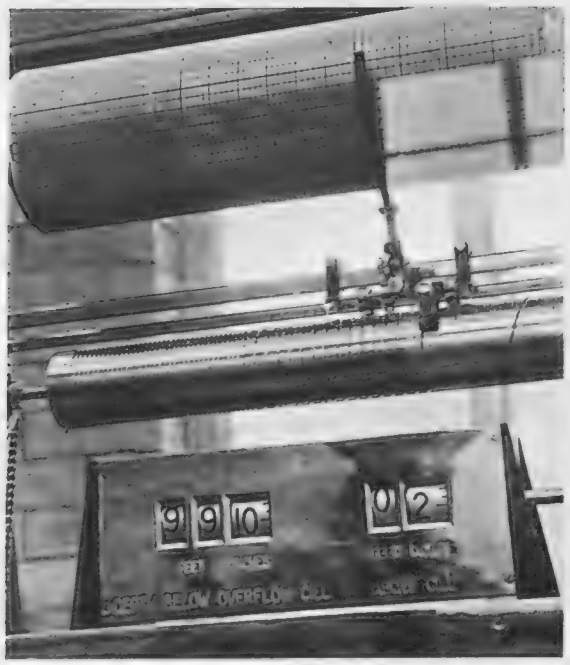
*On left*—Recently more than 100 blackbirds were encased in ice at Lake Overholzer, near Oklahoma City, and game rangers set to work with salt and ice-picks in order to free them. Here a few of the birds are being freed from their predicament. The birds came down on the ice of Lake Overholzer during a rainstorm, and they were frozen on the spot.

THE LADYBOWER RESERVOIR, SHORT OF WATER DURING THE SUMMER OF 1949, AND NOW ALMOST BRIMMING OVER, PROVIDING SHEFFIELD, AMONG OTHER CITIES, WITH 158 DAYS' SUPPLY: Ladybower is set amid delightful natural scenery, and to the outward eye there is little indication of its vast mechanism of water-supply

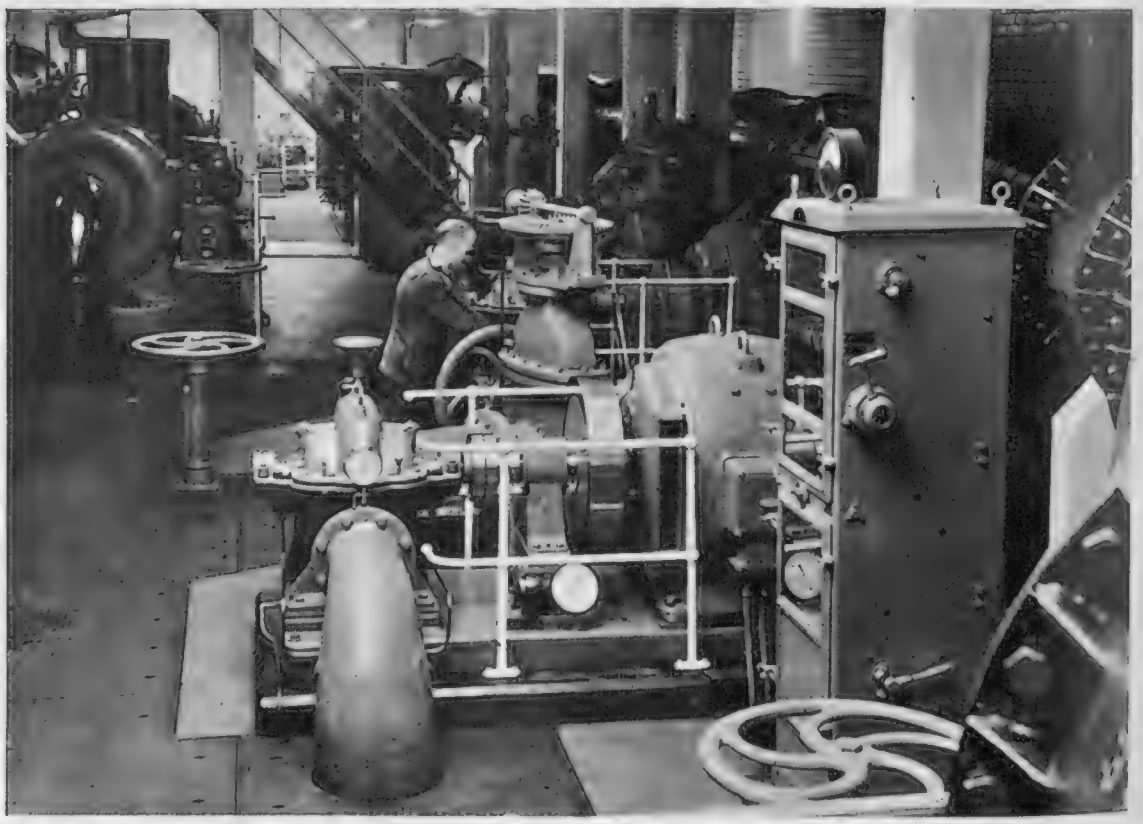
# SECRETS OF LADYBOWER

## The Hidden Power House Beneath the Great Midland Reservoir

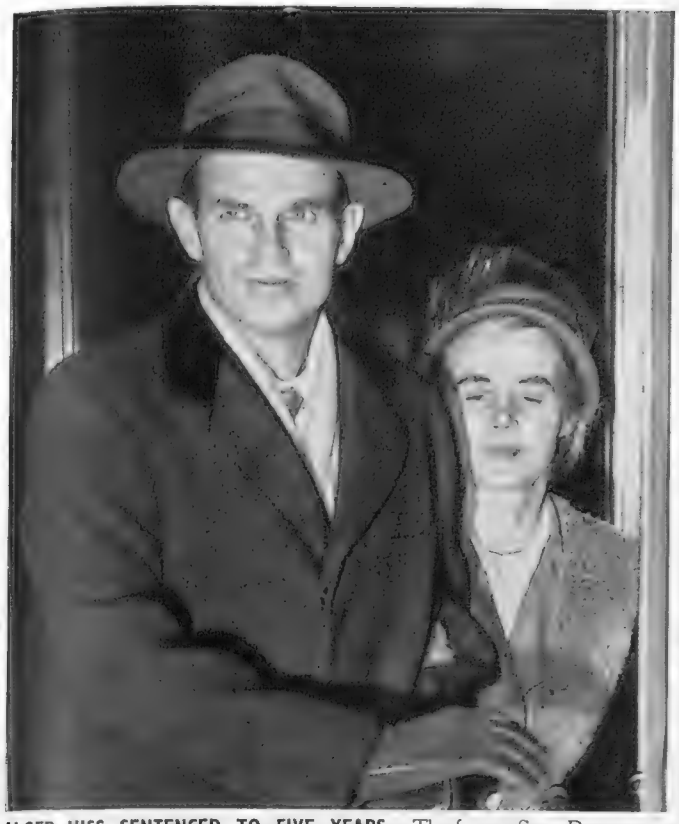
Thousands of people go to admire the beauties of the Ladybower Reservoir—but how many of them know that beneath them, within its sloping banks, machinery is humming and men are at work? These men, and the equipment they control, form one vital link in the system which connects the taps of Sheffield, Nottingham, Derby and Leicester with the great pockets of water at Ladybower, Derwent and Howden. The three reservoirs, whose joint capacity reaches astronomical proportions, supply about 1,500,000 people. To-day they are fuller than they have been at any time in the past two years, and Sheffield Water Committee has indeed announced that the city has 158 days' supply, which is only ten days' supply less than capacity.




RECORDING THE DEPTH OF WATER: These gauges show the depth below the Ladybower spillway and the depth of water on the spillway itself. The Derwent Water Board returns over 16,000,000 gallons of compensation water daily to the Derwent. En route the water is used for generation of electricity



RAISING WATER FROM THE RESERVOIR AT LADYBOWER INTO THE DOMESTIC MAINS: This machine-room, with its electrically-driven pumps, is hidden from the general gaze in the sloping sides of the great reservoir. 38,000,000 gallons of domestic water flow daily from the reservoirs of Ladybower, Howden and Derwent, providing the people of Sheffield, Nottingham and Derby. Ladybower holds a total of 6,300,000,000 gallons



**ALGER HISS SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS :** The former State Department official, one of the most brilliant of the New Deal's young men, leaving the Court-house in New York after he had been convicted for denying under oath that twelve years ago he had given Government documents to Whittaker Chambers, a former courier for a Soviet spy ring

**THE WOMEN JURORS WHO FOUND HISS GUILTY : Six of the eight women who were numbered among the jury of twelve at the second trial of the U.S. State Department official.** Together, the two trials of Alger Hiss lasted seventy days, and Hiss and his wife, Priscilla, sat through every minute of the proceedings. From the witness-stand Hiss told of his career as a bright young man who had entered Washington at the start of the New Deal and climbed rapidly to position and eminence. There came to the court to help him an impressive array of highly-placed men, among them Supreme Court Justices, but this did not avail against the unyielding testimony of Whittaker Chambers and the fact that the incriminating documents were typed on the Hiss typewriter. The jury at this second trial deliberated for twenty-four hours

## HISS GUILTY, TUCKER INNOCENT

**Two Trials which have Shaken America, and Other Transatlantic News**

**CONGRATULATIONS FOR PRESTON TUCKER, CREATOR OF THE TUCKER TORPEDO WITH "THE CYCLOPS EYE" :** Mr. Tucker is seen (second from left) being congratulated by his wife, his defence attorneys and the foreman of the jury after a Federal Court jury in Chicago had acquitted him and seven associates on charges of mail fraud and conspiracy in the building of their post-war "dream car," the Tucker Torpedo. The dramatic story of the Tucker Torpedo was told last October in the *Reader's Digest*, when it was revealed that the first show model has no reverse gear and the engine could not be started without auxiliary power from additional storage batteries. "The car's debut," declared the *Reader's Digest*, "was part of an incredible series of events which, culminating in the collapse of the Tucker bubble, swallowed 26,000,000 dollars of big and little people's money. For the right to sell the car of to-morrow, business-men in forty countries traded in from 1,000 dollars to 40,000 dollars apiece. Fifty thousand wage-earners, carried away by tales of the miracle car, traded 17,000,000 dollars worth of savings for Tucker Corporation shares. Still other cash-happy folk, to win places in line for Tucker cars, planked down 2,300,000 dollars for seat heaters and other accessories for a car that was not then, nor ever, in production." The case before the Chicago court lasted three months

**DEATH ON THE HIGHWAY AT BURBANK, CALIFORNIA :** Dennis Morgan (right) and Gary Cooper, the well-known screen actors, looking on as police inspected the effects of a dead woman and a dying man. The actors were dining nearby when they heard two shots. In the car, dead of shotgun wounds, was Mrs. Evelyn Walker, aged fifty-five. Dying was Arnold V. Harner. The police declared that Harner had shot Mrs. Walker

**CARS ADRIFT ON LAKE WINNEBAGO, WISCONSIN, ON A HUGE SHEET OF ICE WHICH, WITH GREAT SUDDENNESS, WAS TORN FROM THE SHORE BY HIGH WINDS : Only a few feet of water separated the cars from the suburbs of Oshkosh. The owners, who were fishing at the time of the breach in the ice, were ferried to safety. It was thought that the gap between the ice and the shore would be frozen over in due course and it would be possible for the cars to be driven in safety on to terra firma**

# CHRISTIANITY SEEKS CONVERTS in POST-WAR JAPAN

## *But it is an Uphill Fight Against the Strong Forces of Political Materialism*

Although General MacArthur's statement that "a thousand missionaries could win Japan to Christianity" is now being subjected to a complete and thorough test, with nearly 1,800 missionaries of all denominations working in the country, many Christian leaders are frank to admit that something is wrong with Christianity in Japan to-day. Members of the Protestant sects in particular are concerned with the lack of real spiritual vitality of the Church in its relationship to modern problems besetting the defeated Japanese people.

It is not the number of converts, nor their sincerity, that disturbs many religious leaders. Even the great physical difficulties which faced all missionaries after the war, with the loss of 25 per cent. of all church facilities, drastic reduction in income for the churches to reconstruct old facilities and add new, is only a minor problem in comparison with the fundamental lack of adaptability to Christianity to meet present-day needs of its congregations.

Toru Matsumoto, outstanding Protestant leader, explains it in his own way. "That something is wrong with the Church in Japan is obvious even to a casual observer. There are many explanations: That the Church in Japan has been traditionally too theoretical; that the war has sapped leaders of their energy and initiative; that antagonists of Christianity are too powerful.

**TOYOHIKO KAGAWA, ONE OF JAPAN'S OUTSTANDING CHRISTIAN LEADERS: Kagawa runs a kindergarten, and although this is only one of his many activities, he regards it as vitally important, for it is with the children of Japan that the hope of Christianity lies. Kagawa is also associated with a hospital**

"A well-known leader of the Church said recently: 'The greatest enemy of Christianity is materialism.'

"It was only a few years ago that militarism was called the greatest adversary. These explanations are all valid by themselves, yet they fail to answer collectively our fundamental query: Why aren't the Churches taking advantage of the unprecedented opportunity for Christianity to-day?"

Undoubtedly the opportunity does exist. As General MacArthur's letter to the Southern California-Arizona Methodist Conference pointed out last June, with the Japanese defeat came an abrupt awakening to the superficiality of the myths and legends on which the Japanese had based their faith. "The resulting spiritual vacuum," the General wrote, "offers a clear field for Christian leadership."

Almost all the Protestant denominations who were active in Japan before the war, together with the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., and the Salvation Army, are now represented among the 1,150 Catholic, 650 Protestant missionaries to the defeated country. The influence of these men and women is much larger than the official total number of Christians, which is 300,000, would indicate. Since the most successful missions before the war were either educational, or medical, the impact of Christianity, even though sometimes indirect, has been considerable. Many able politicians and leaders have been educated in Christian schools, which has not failed to give them a sympathetic understanding towards the aims of the Church.

Especially in regard to the education of women, who now for the first time have equality politically and socially with men, has the Church been pre-eminent. Traditionally, the Japanese school system had many adequate educational centres for its young boys and men, but nothing in the way of higher education for women. In these fields, as well as that of pre-school, or kindergarten work, the Churches served an important role, and still continue to do so.

Christian education in Japan has been negatively influenced by two factors. One was the policy of the Japanese Government in favouring the graduates of Government schools over those of private schools, thus giving an important advantage to the individual, especially those planning any Civil Service career, in the possession of a diploma from Government schools. The other factor was the severe restriction on the teaching of religion in school, which forced Christian schools to depend almost entirely on extra-curricular activities and a general Christian atmosphere in training its students. Now this limitation has been lifted, and with the general desire to learn the English language, and especially the admiration for American ways among a large part of the younger people, has placed the Christian schools in a favourable position. Whether or not they will be able to take full advantage of this position rests entirely with the Church. In a recent survey of the Christian Church in Japan, a survey that took a year to prepare, the Rev. Hall C. Shorrock, Jr., in a report prepared for the Japan Council of Christian Education, points out that Christianity is losing the battle for Japan's youth. His belief is that a dynamic (if completely fallacious) programme of Communism in Japan has too great an attraction in the minds of impressionable young people, whose world has been broken and discredited. Mr. Shorrock says: "The Japanese Church has no programme to offer the thousands of young people searching and trying to grasp some sort of meaning in life. Although 80 per cent. of all congregations are made up of these young people, the Christian Church is not challenging young people to-day: if anything, it is causing serious young people to turn away from Christianity, to fall headlong into doubt, materialism, and, ultimately, Communism. At least the Communists have a programme which the Church lacks."

Other complaints range from the statement that the Church itself has become too materialistic, selling everything from peanut butter to shoes in the church Sunday, to help raise funds to meet running expenses to the accusation that it is too theoretical.

Religious leaders like Kagawa have long recognised these failings, even in pre-war Japan. To keep the Christian movement in touch with the lives of the people Kagawa organised Rochdale co-operatives in conjunction with the Church itself.

At the present time, he is the principal figure in a three-year evangelistic campaign under the auspices of the Church of Christ in Japan. His presence, philosophy, while still emphasising the value of co-operatives as an economic measure, is concerned with bringing new converts to strengthen the position of the Christian Church while the Allied occupation lasts. This may be considered a case of making hay while the sun shines, for no one is able to predict what the position of the Church will be following the peace treaty.

**FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TOKYO SINCE THE WAR THE CEREMONY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT HAS BEEN HELD ST. IGNATIUS'S CHURCH:** Many devout Roman Catholics took part in the ceremony and there was a large contingent of nurses from the Roman Catholic Hospital. Since 1941 Roman Catholicism has had legal recognition in Japan. There are supporters of Greek Catholicism, Protestantism and the Free Churches. Shintoism is now no longer recognised officially by the State, but the various Shinto sects, and they are legion, still have a vast following among the Japanese people.

**THE ORPHANS OF AIRIN DAN LEARN THE CHRISTIAN WAY OF LIFE: Children at prayer at the Airin Dan Home for children whose parents died in the Philippines. Allied agencies have provided them with warm clothing and bed**

ST. IGNATIUS'S CHURCH, TOKYO : A procession on the way to the Roman Catholic Church for the ceremony of the Blessed Sacrament. Since 1891 the Roman Catholics in Japan have had an Episcopate of one Archbishop and three Suffragan Bishops. In all, there were over 2,000 Christian churches in Japan before the war, some of them Greek Catholic and some Protestant. About 25 per cent. of these establishments were destroyed by Allied bombing during 1944 and 1945

AN ENGLISH READING LESSON AT THE SHOSHIN BAPTIST CHURCH IN YOKOHAMA : Members of the Fifth Grade at work in a well-known mission school. Many Japanese send their children to mission schools not always because they are Christians, although it is often a reason, but because they know that the education reaches a high standard and that there will be instruction in English

A SUNDAY SERVICE IN THE GINZA : In this church on Tokyo's main shopping thoroughfare about 350 people attend each Sunday service, and there is nearly always a large gathering of young people for noonday services which are held during the week

THE JUNIOR CHOIR PRACTISES AT THE GINZA CHURCH : Choir-singing has helped in no small measure to popularise the Christian church in post-war Japan, bringing in many young people

PASTOR TAMAKI UEMURA SITS AMONG THE MEMBERS OF HER CHURCH YOUTH GROUP AT A LUNCH-TIME GATHERING : The pastor's church in the Kashiwago district of Tokyo was burnt out in the war, but she has been able to rebuild with American aid

# UTRILLO AT WORK AGAIN

## *The Re-emergence of a Post-Impressionist*

Utrillo, the ageing and almost legendary painter of Montmartre, has caused one or two sensations in his time, not the least of them last year, when he superintended the burning of a large number of his works. Now he has astounded the art world of Paris by suddenly stepping down from his ivory tower in the suburb of Vesinet, where he has led the life of a hermit for years. Instead of hiding away from the world he has started meeting people and going places, caught up in a new enthusiasm for a film which is to be made of his life, and in which he will play himself.

So a new phase opens in the romantic career of Utrillo. The last phase began in 1935, when he married Lucie Valore; Lucie was formerly the wife of M. Pauwells, wealthy patron of Utrillo. When she married the artist she became not only his wife but also his impresario, his nurse, the keeper of his conscience and the guardian of his artistic soul. The couple settled at Vesinet, in a house which belonged originally to the sculptor Bourdelle, and Lucie set about reforming Maurice. She rationed out what she called his "poison"—his glasses of vin rouge. She got him to paint again, and if she could not make him paint during the daytime, at least he would paint at night. Under Lucie's guidance he decided to become a Roman Catholic. Lucie, to encourage her husband to paint, began painting herself, surprising everyone by her skill.

The artistic lion was tamed. Utrillo has ever since led a well-ordered life. To-day he rises at noon, spends the afternoon in prayer and meditation in a tiny chapel which he has had built at the bottom of the garden. In the evening he works in his studio, often lit only by candles, painting from memory his beloved Montmartre.

His manner is often remote, and he is quite aloof from the world during his long spiritual conversations and while he is painting. Sometimes visitors to his studio see him suddenly drop before the crucifix which stands in the room, not speaking again for several minutes. Or he may suddenly dart away to add a few touches of paint to pictures which he finished years ago, and which now hang on the walls of his home.

When a man follows his inspirations the uninitiated may call him "strange" or eccentric. But with Utrillo it is that special kind of eccentricity—genius.

MAURICE UTRILLO IN HIS STUDIO: In the middle of a conversation with visitors the artist may suddenly kneel before the crucifix which stands in his studio, remaining for several minutes in profound, silent meditation. He became a Roman Catholic under the influence of his wife

EVERY MORNING UTRILLO AND HIS WIFE VISIT THEIR PEKINGESE DOGS: Utrillo lives a well-ordered life, concentrating for a large part of each evening on his painting. He seldom works during the day, spending much time in meditation and prayer

UTRILLO PAINTS A PORTRAIT OF HIS WIFE LUCIE: Portraiture is very much a sideline with Utrillo, whose favourite subject is Montmartre, which, at the studio in Vesinet, he now paints from memory. Utrillo first exhibited his work in 1909, showing regularly for many years at the Salon des Independants

MADAME UTRILLO ALSO PAINTS: Here she is at work on a portrait of her husband, with the dome of the Sacré Cœur supplying the symbolic background of Utrillo's beloved Montmartre. Lucie was formerly the wife of M. Pauwells, a wealthy patron of Utrillo in his earlier days

# BRITAIN'S NEW SUPER TANK CENTURION IN PRODUCTION

THE TURRET, COMPLETE WITH GUN, ABOUT TO BE MOUNTED ON THE HULL OF THE CENTURION: This powerful new tank, the standard tank of the Royal Armoured Corps, is now in quantity production in this country

These are the first pictures to be taken of Britain's new super-tank, the 50-ton Centurion, details of which have just been released from the secret list.

The Centurion was designed by the Ministry of Supply Fighting Vehicles Establishment in conjunction with Messrs. Vickers-Armstrong Ltd., and, as far as is known, it is the only new tank to be produced in quantity by any nation since the end of the war.

It is powered by a Meteor petrol engine—an adaptation of the world-famous Rolls-Royce Merlin aero engine, and it develops 635 b.h.p. The gearbox and steering, combined in one unit, is of the well-known Merritt-Brown type.

The Centurion is now the standard tank of the Royal Armoured Corps. It played an important part in last year's large-scale manœuvres of the British Army held in the Paderborn area in West Germany.

THE CENTURION TACKLES A STEEP GRADIENT: Heavy skirting plates, it will be seen, protect the suspension from grenades and other weapons. The squat turret would offer a minimum target to opposing tanks

WADING THROUGH A STREAM: Here the Centurion is seen with its gun-turret open and the driver looking out as the vehicle rumbles across uneven terrain. The tank has proved most effective during manœuvres

IN A ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND: Hulls for Centurion tanks being produced in quantity. After the necessary drillings have been made in the hulls, engines are fitted and the tanks are then ready to receive the turrets and guns

THE SUPREME TEST OF THE CENTURION: The tank under test takes the steepest of gradients. The loose ground made the negotiation of this gradient no mean feat, but the Centurion, with her powerful adaptation of the Rolls-Royce Merlin engine, came through with flying colours

**WEST WYCOMBE HOUSE AND PARK, A CELEBRATED BEAUTY SPOT ON A SPUR OF THE CHILTERN HILLS:** The present baronet, Sir John Dashwood, presented the house, the park and 300 acres of farmland, with an endowment, to the National Trust in 1943. Restoration work has lately been carried out on the verandah the double colonnade of the Corinthian and Doric orders. Standing on the hill can be seen the eighteenth-century church with the gilded ball surmounting the tow

The notorious Sir Francis Dashwood, a man of large fortune, some profligacy and g culture, who was well known for his practical jokes, some of them not in the be taste, inherited West Wycombe House from Sir Francis Dashwood, the first baronet. 1762 the second Sir Francis became Chancellor of the Exchequer, and for an inglorious s of months, to use the words of Horace Walpole, "he stumbled over farthings and trod over pounds." His fall coincided with Bute's disgrace, and he retired to West Wyco there to try his amateur hand as an architect and landscape gardener. To the ideas o Francis Dashwood West Wycombe owes much, and by 1765 the house was indeed tra formed. Robert Adam made certain designs for the house, but these were not always fol in detail. The park itself is a most successful example of eighteenth-century lay-out. Al 1800 Humphrey Repton was called in to effect judicious alterations, but he achieved t without interfering with the original scheme. The house and grounds are open to the p on certain days.

**THE SOUTH FRONT OF WEST WYCOMBE HOUSE, SHOWING THE FAMOUS COLONNADE OF THE CORINTHIAN ORDER OVER A COLONNADE OF THE DORIC ORDER, A** UNCONVENTIONAL AND DISTINCTIVE FEATURE OF THE MANSION: The picture *on the right* shows the lower verandah with its eighteenth-century frescoes, which have been restored by the National Trust. The north elevation of West Wycombe House is a conservative front in the Paladian manner, while the eastern por in Doric style is also conventional. Sir Francis Dashwood, who transformed the mansion in the eighteenth century, was to a very considerable extent his own archi

National Trust News

# CORINTHIAN ELEGANCE

COTSWOLD CHARM, AND MEDIEVAL MELLOWNESS

**THE MANOR FARM, KENCOT, OXFORDSHIRE, WHICH HAS LATELY BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE NATIONAL TRUST: It is a fine example of a large Cotswold village house, with its mellow stone walls and tiling harmonising to perfection with the surrounding landscape. Kencot Manor Farm was built about 1660 and additions were made early in the eighteenth century. The National Trust will not open the building to the public, but is finding a tenant for it**

The acquisition of Kencot Manor Farm is excellent news. Although the National Trust owns many properties in the West, it is not particularly rich in examples of Cotswold building, a noble aspect of our heritage in stone. The traveller on the main road from Oxford to Cheltenham, cutting through the heart of the stone-wall country, will still see many houses of the character of Kencot, though not all possessing quite the same charm or the same fine proportions. Kencot lies on a side road between Burford and Lechlade, two typical Cotswold villages. It has been acquired by the National Trust under the will of the late Mr. J. S. Furley.

**AKE'S OLD HOME IN DANGER—HISTORIC BUCKLAND ABBEY, WHICH HAS BEEN ATTACKED BY WOODWORM, DRY ROT AND THE DEATH WATCH BEETLE: This state of affairs has been disclosed during work on the Abbey to make it suitable as a Drake Maritime Museum. Members of the Pilgrim Trust and a representative of the National Trust conferred recently at the Abbey with a view to formulating a plan of preservation. The Abbey, a Cistercian foundation of 1278, was acquired by Drake in 1581. Drake returned to England in 1580 from his world voyage, his ship laden with gold, silver, silk and pearls as a consequence of highly successful commerce raiding. It was with this new-won wealth that he acquired Buckland, and when he died he left it to his brother Thomas, the companion of most of his voyages and adventures. Two years ago Plymouth Corporation received a gift of £15,000 from the Pilgrim Trust for work on the Abbey, now a National Trust property, but more funds will almost certainly be needed if repairs are to be satisfactorily completed. Indeed, the Abbey Committee has lately made a public appeal for further aid**

**DRIVING THE FIRST PILE FOR THE TEMPORARY BRIDGE ACROSS THE THAMES WHICH WILL FORM ONE OF THE FIVE PUBLIC ENTRANCES TO THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN EXHIBITION.** A Bailey Bridge costing £80,000 is being erected by the Army about 30 yards above Hungerford Bridge. This will form the main pedestrian approach from the North Bank of the river. The turnstiles for this entrance will be on the North Bank. The other public entrances will be from Waterloo Bridge at high level; from Waterloo main and Underground stations by means of a footbridge over York Road and an escalator within the Exhibition grounds; from Chicheley Street;—and by water at specially-constructed piers

**AFRICAN LAWYERS VISIT LONDON:** Mr. Justice A. Ademola, of the Nigerian Supreme Court, and Mr. Just S. O. Quashie-Dun, of the Gold Coast Supreme Court, the two African members of the Commission of Inqu into the disorders which followed the recent labour d pute at the Enugu Colliery in Nigeria. They came London to consider written submissions made by coun and other representatives following the conclusion oral evidence given in Nigeria. Sir William Fitzger K.C., was Chairman of the Commission, and the fou member was Mr. R. W. Williams, Labour M.P. for W

## From LONDON and the PROVINCES

The Home News in Pictures

**BRITAIN'S FIRST CIVIL DEFENCE COLLEGE AT SUNNINGDALE PARK, NEAR ASCOT:** *Left*—Mr. Chuter Ede, the Home Secretary, addresses distinguished guests and students at the opening of the first permanent Civil Defence Staff College at Sunningdale Park. Seated behind Mr. Ede is the Commandant, Major-General J. S. Lethbridge, and among those facing him in the front row are Lady Reading and the C.I.G.S., Field-Marshal Sir William Slim. *Right*—The Civil Defence flag flies over Sunningdale Park, former home of the late Sir Hugo Cunliffe-Owen. The mansion, which is situated in "Millionaires' Mile," near Ascot, has been described as England's perfect country ho

**A BRITISH GIRLS' CHOIR TO TOUR THE UNITED STATES:** Arthur Davies directs a rehearsal of the Luton Girls' Choir, which he has built up from a few enthusiasts to one of the finest choirs of its kind in the country. The girls, who wear uniform dresses of ice-blue, are to go on a tour of Canada and the United States next April, with Mr. Davies as conductor

**EDUARD VAN BEINUM TAKES CHARGE OF THE LONDON PHILHARMON ORCHESTRA: He was greeted by Sir Adrian Boult (left) on h arrival. Mr. Van Beinum will be in full charge of the orchestr until next June.** The London Philharmonic Orchestra, founded in 193 Sir Thomas Beecham, is now celebrating the tenth anniversary of its s governing constitution. Van Beinum began his London season last wi when he conducted Mahler's "Das Lied Von der Erde" at the Roy Albert Hall. Sixty years old, Sir Adrian Boult, Director of Music of th B.B.C. from 1930 until 1942, is a past conductor of the London Philharmo

**THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA IN LONDON VISITS SANDHURST:** Mr. Krishna Menon inspects officer cadets, accompanied by Major-General Sir Hugh Stockwell, Commandant of the Royal Military Academy. He was attending a ceremonial parade after presenting the Royal Military Academy, as a gift from the Government of India, with a collection of medals of the Indian Army which dated from 1784 to 1945

**THE NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEETING AT KINGSWAY HALL: Lack of co-operation between the Ministries of Agriculture and Food was severely criticised.** Mr. E. R. Yates, of Essex, proposed that the Union should press the Prime Minister to merge the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Food into one department, as the co-ordination of food supplies from home and overseas could best be achieved by one department with a full understanding of agricultural problems, "so clearly lacking in the Ministry of Food at the present time." Most of the agricultural industry's troubles originated in the Ministry of Food, said Mr. Yates, and a lack of co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture had resulted in loss of confidence among producers and a decline in production. Sir James Turner said, in his presidential address, that integration of plans for food procurement and food production was an urgent need in the interests of good national housekeeping

**SWALLOW TAIL FLIES TO BRAZIL: He is seen entering a horse-box before it was raised by a ramp operated lift to the doorway of the Pan-American Clipper.** Three valuable horses left London Airport last week when they were flown to Rio de Janeiro. Swallow Tail, third in last year's photo-finish Derby, has been bought by Mr. Peixato de Castro, who will race him in Brazil before retiring him to his own stud. The other horses were the filly Red Peak, and a three-year-old colt, Tried and True. The fares for the flight amounted to £2,500

**A LONDON HOME FOR VISCOUNT ST. DAVIDS: The *Tortoise* is seen as she was launched from the Seacraft Company's yard at Leigh-on-Sea, in Essex. She is described as a barge-yacht of novel design and is to be moored in the Thames near the Houses of Parliament, where she will become the Westminster home of Viscount St. Davids when he and his family visit London**

**FREDDIE MILLS LOSES THE WORLD CRUISER-WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP TO JOEY MAXIM, OF AMERICA: *Left*—Maxim covers up from a right to the body by Mills in the first round. *Right*—Mills takes a straight left from Maxim.** Mills, shorter in reach and 2 ins. shorter in height than Maxim, pressed from the start and, in the fourth round, opened a small cut under Maxim's left eye. The American was the more skilful boxer, however, and as the fight proceeded, his punches had increasing effect and he was the more accurate of the two. In the seventh round, Mills took considerable punishment, but in the eighth he returned to the attack and seemed to have Maxim shaken. Maxim proved to be able to defend himself, and in the tenth round he attacked, and a short drive to Mills's solar plexus, followed by a left to the mouth, gave him a knock-out victory and the cruiser-weight championship of the world

# ADVENTURE and MISADVENTURE ON THE HIGH SEAS

**THE MEN FROM COCOS ISLAND WHO WERE SHIPWRECKED AND ENJOYED A FREE TRIP TO CIVILISATION: *Left*—Mr. Leslie Larpiniere and Mr. John Clunie Ross, owner of twenty-five islands in the Cocos Group in the Indian Ocean, seen on arrival at Fremantle in the liner *Strathaird* which rescued them. *Right*—Some of the Malayan natives who were rescued at the same time and enjoyed a trip to Western Australia**

On January 17, twenty-one-year-old John Clunie Ross, the owner of twenty-five islands in the Cocos Group, arrived in Fremantle, Western Australia, in the British liner *Strathaird* accompanied by five other whites and twelve natives. There they will remain until the next boat leaves for Cocos. Their adventure began on January 13 when they put out in boats from the Cocos Islands to pick up mails and supplies from the *Strathaird*, which was standing a mile or two out to sea. Rough seas capsized the two frail boats, but all aboard were saved and taken aboard the *Strathaird*. Only one of the natives had ever been beyond the islands before. They all declared that they had enjoyed the trip across the Indian Ocean.

**THE CRUISE OF THE "BOLEH": Four Royal Navy men and a Chinese cook are sailing to England from Singapore in this strange, hybrid craft described as a "dhow-junk." They are Commander Robin Kilroy, D.S.C., of Salcombe, Devon, who is acting as skipper; Mr. George Jarvis, of the Royal Naval Dockyard, Singapore, whose home is also at Salcombe; Lieut.-Commanders John Rusher, D.S.C., of Cheltenham, Peter Aplin, of Paignton, Devon; and Chang Hai Kun, a Singapore Chinese. Their craft—designed by Kilroy—is the *Boleh* (which means "Can do" in Malay). Registered at Lloyd's as a 10-tonner, she is 40 ft. overall and has a 9-h.p. auxiliary motor. The 15,000-mile sea voyage is expected to last seven months. Commander Kilroy, an accomplished artist, raised nearly £500 for the voyage by auctioning a number of his paintings**

**A SURF-BOAT COLLISION OFF THE AUSTRALIAN COAST: This dramatic picture was taken during a surf carnival at the celebrated Dee-Why Beach near Sydney. Strangely enough, no harm was done, and both boats finished the race with their crews intact**

**THE "BOLEH" LEAVES SINGAPORE: Commander Kilroy's dhow-junk under a full spread of sail as the vessel set out for England. They should reach the Devon coast some time during July**

**MARIA HEARS OF HER SON'S REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES :** In the first act of *The Family* at the Moscow Lenin Komsomol Theatre the young Lenin stands by while two of his teachers make known the news that he has been the ringleader in a demonstration at Kazan Uniyersity, for his share in which he has been expelled

# THE YOUTH OF LENIN

## As Portrayed in a New Play in the Moscow Theatre

Vladimir Ilyich Ulianoff, to give Lenin his original names, was born on April 10, 1870, at Simbirsk, the son of a hereditary noble. The circumstances of his birth make it hard to believe that he could have become the chief architect of Russian revolution, but so it was, and the story of his youth as student agitator at Kazan University and of his early manhood as a lawyer in St. Petersburg provide the basis for Popov's play, *The Family*, now being presented at the Moscow Lenin Komsomol Theatre. It is a dramatic story indeed, requiring no special political embroidery, for the Ulianoffs were always in trouble with authority. While still at school, at the Simbirsk Gymnasium, Lenin became interested in Socialist doctrines and was a keen student of Karl Marx. His elder brother, Alexander, was an active revolutionary before him and was executed for his principles, and we see in the play how Alexander's death brings home to the young Lenin that any attempt at revolution before the great body of the people had been won over was doomed to failure. From that moment Lenin became an underground worker, a publisher of illegal newspapers, and a conspirator by stealth. We are shown the young man who, in happier circumstances, would have developed into a scholar and an æsthete, emerging as the embodiment of the revolution.

**MARIA ULIANOFF VISITS HER DAUGHTER ANNA IN PRISON :** In the last years of the '80's and the early '90's the whole Ulianoff family was involved in revolutionary activities, and in 1887 indeed, Lenin's brother was executed for participation in a plot against the Tsar, an event that had the profoundest influence on the young Lenin

**LENIN, NOW GROWN TO MANHOOD, MEETS THE ST. PETERSBURG REVOLUTIONARIES :** After qualifying as a lawyer at Kazan University, to which he was permitted to return four years after his expulsion. Lenin went to St. Petersburg and there set up in practice. It was then that he started publishing illegal newspapers, and for this he was imprisoned for a year in 1895 and exiled for a further three years to Siberia. In this picture he is seen seated second from left

**THE FAMILY LEARNS ABOUT THE EXECUTION OF ALEXANDER ULIANOFF :** Lenin, his mother, Maria, and his sister Olga plunged in grief

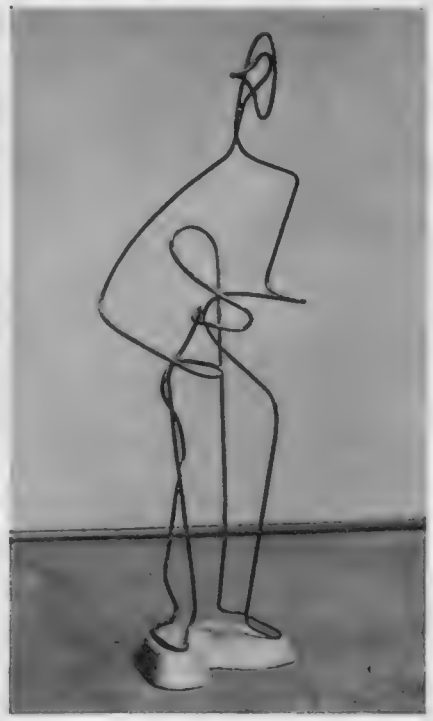
**IVAN BABUSHKIN MEETS VLADIMIR ULIANOFF :** The two underground workers shake hands at their meeting in St. Petersburg

# THE ART OF YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES AT THE R.B.A. GALLERIES IN SUFFOLK STREET

Over 600 works are being shown until February 18 at the second annual exhibition of the "Young Contemporaries"—art students of Great Britain—at the R.B.A. Galleries in Suffolk Street, behind the Haymarket. The first exhibition, last year, was organised by art students of Greater London, but this year's show has been augmented by contributions from several provincial schools. Oils, water-colours, etchings, engravings, lithographs and sculpture all display a freshness of approach and a high general standard. There are now some 120,000 registered art students in Great Britain as against 66,000 before the war, and it is inevitable that many must abandon the freedom of expression which they can indulge in more personal work, for the limitations of commercial art. The present exhibition was selected by fourteen distinguished artists including Edward Bawden, Maurice Lambert, Henry Moore, Roderigo Moynihan, and John Piper. Sales have been good, many of last year's buyers being among the purchasers. The Arts Council bought Jacqueline Stanley's "Parrot House" for the Derbyshire Education Committee for 25 guineas.

THREE "YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES" AT THE SECOND EXHIBITION OF WORK BY BRITISH ART STUDENTS AT THE R.B.A. GALLERIES IN SUFFOLK STREET: James Van Hear, E. C. Middleditch and Derrick Greaves all exhibit pictures at the Young Contemporaries' Exhibition which was opened on January 19 by Mr. Philip James

"VISION OF THE HOLY GRAIL," BY F. PLUMMER: The picture has a Pre-Raphaelite look about it, although the faces show a more modern sophistication



YOUNG CONTEMPORARY SCULPTURE: On the left is "Standing Figure" in copper and wood by Roy H. Coulthurst, of the L.C.C. Central School of Arts and Crafts; and, on the right, "Cat's Cradle" in plastic wood by Harold Cohen, of the Slade

"DOROTHY AND THE COAL CART," by John Sewell: A modern genre painting, one of over 600 exhibits at the Young Contemporaries' Exhibition

"THE 'WRESTLERS' SCHOOLS," SCULPTURE BY ERIC L. WINTERS: A powerful piece by a young student who has been working at the Royal Academy Schools

# TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF THE MONTE CARLO RALLY

## Competitors Meet with Ice, Snow, and Fog En Route

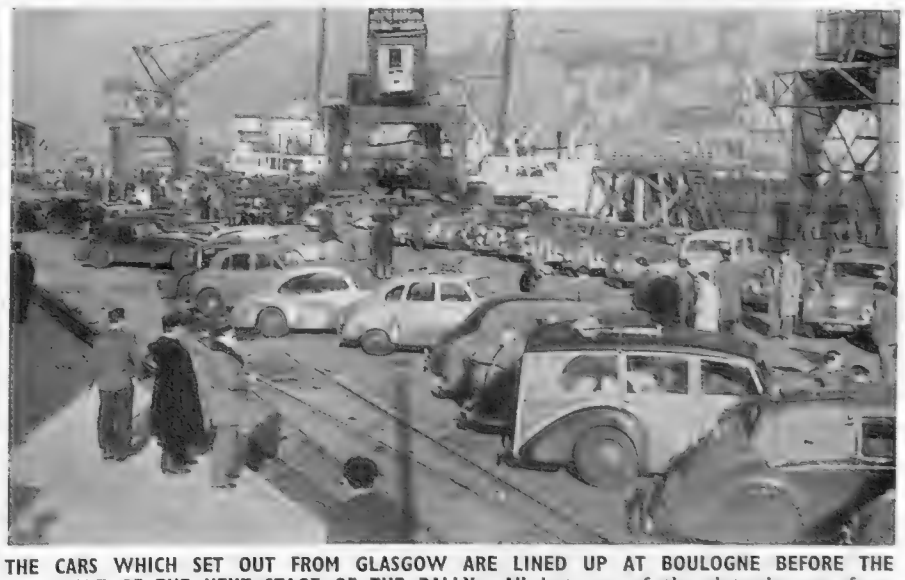
**HILLMAN MINX CARS IN THE MONTE CARLO RALLY LINE UP AT FOLKESTONE BEFORE CONVEYANCE ACROSS THE CHANNEL :** These cars started from Glasgow, while others started from Lisbon, Stockholm, Oslo, Florence and Monte Carlo itself (the last-named making a circular tour). Not only English drivers started from Glasgow, a party of Frenchmen driving Renaults making the Scottish city their initial control-point

**DRIV[illegible] BY THE WINNER OF THE 1949 RALLY :** This Delahaye (numbered No. 1), seen at [illegible] Paris control-point near the Arc de Triomphe, was driven by M. Trevoux, [illegible] was successful last year with a Hotchkiss. His Delahaye bore the number 1 mark M. Trevoux's position as leading contender in the Monte Carlo Rally

**AT MONTE CARLO CONTROL-POINT : The Ford Vedette, driven by Louis Chiron, starting out on its round trip. Chiron did well and when he returned to Monte Carlo reported passing at least a dozen cars stranded**

**A FORD V 8 IS PUT ABOARD THE S.S. "DINARD" AT FOLKESTONE SHORTLY BEFORE THE BRITISH CARS WERE CONVEYED ACROSS TO FRANCE FOR THE SECOND STAGE OF THE RALLY :** On the road south from Glasgow the sixty-six cars were checked in at the Doncaster control, and again on arrival at the southern port their times and average speeds over the distance already covered were checked and marks, if any, deducted

**A HALT AT SIDCUP IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING :** Drivers in the Rally who started from the Glasgow control seen during a brief halt for refreshment on the outskirts of London. At the same time their cars took on more petrol for the run down to Folkestone



**THE CARS WHICH SET OUT FROM GLASGOW ARE LINED UP AT BOULOGNE BEFORE THE START OF THE NEXT STAGE OF THE RALLY : All but one of the sixty-six cars from Glasgow were brought across in the S.S. "Dinard." The one exception was flown**

The Monte Carlo Rally, in which drivers of fourteen nationalities competed, setting out from six different control-points in Europe, was more than ever a test of stamina this year, also a test of nerve, for on the closing stages through the Rhône Valley and in the Alpine foothills through Digne and Grasse icy roads made continuously high average speeds dangerous indeed. The sixty-six cars which set out from Glasgow travelled through the night via the Doncaster control point to Folkestone, where there was a final control before the Channel crossing. From Boulogne the drivers turned through Picardy and Artois towards Luxembourg, and then turned north through Belgium to Holland before re-entering France and approaching Monte Carlo via the Rhône Valley. The scheduled average speed between controls for the first stages of the Rally was not less than 31·7 m.p.h. and not more than 34·4 m.p.h. inclusive of all stops for petrol, meals or any repairs. Marks were deducted for failure to conform to any of these speeds. As the contest drew to a close with competitors converging from Italy, Scandinavia, Scotland and Portugal, it was apparent that more than 100 competitors would not reach journey's end in scheduled time. Many cars skidded on the icy roads of the Rhône Valley, and Mr. and Mrs. T. van Blaaderen, of Holland, driving a Delahaye, had a narrow escape when their car skidded into a wall and subsequently plunged 60 ft. into a ravine coming to rest in a clump of trees. They climbed out unhurt, except for bruises. The first of the Glasgow contingent to arrive at Monte Carlo was P. G. Harper, in a Hillman Minx.

*New Lamps and Old*

# "D.N.B."—MY DESERT ISLAND CHOICE

**It Holds the Romance of 1,000 Good Novels** By JOHN GORE

"DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY."—No one can deny the adjective *monumental* to the *D.N.B.* Its twenty-five heavy volumes stand in my highest shelf, and this shelf is about the only one which does not collect the dust of ages. I take down those volumes, or some of them, every day of my life. This mighty enterprise is the historian's right-hand man, the biographer's *vade-mecum*, and an inexhaustible romance to all who find truth more interesting than fiction. Of whom I am one. The bare details of the career of an eminent or not so eminent man invariably hold me. I follow the most soulless biographical notice with almost personal interest. Even *Who's Who* I can read as one reads a novel. *D.N.B.* mercifully has wider terms of reference and allows a loophole to a biographer who can paint little pictures or throw a revealing searchlight here or there. But more than any other document I can quickly think of (unless it be a Parliamentary Bill), *D.N.B.* must stick to essentials and to the truth, and must ensure an absolute accuracy supported by the data available at the time of proof-reading. Encyclopædias publish revised and enlarged editions periodically. Errors of fact can be corrected, new facts can be introduced to bolster up or to correct judgments of men and of events. But the *D.N.B.* is too monumental for re-dressing and re-editing. It is too expensive to produce. Vol. XXV, alas, could not run to the couple of gold lines on the back of the binding which have distinguished the earlier twenty-four.

**Supplements.**—Nevertheless, George Smith, famous publisher and "only begetter" of *D.N.B.*, and his chief lieutenants, Leslie Stephen and Sidney Lee, did in the early stages foresee the need for some form of periodic revision and extension by way of supplements, and Vol. XXII was the first of these. It comprised notices of 200 subjects accidentally omitted from the original or earlier volumes, and about 800 who had qualified from the date of Vol. XXI up to the end of the age of Victoria 1901. Originally, it was intended to limit this supplement to 1900, but the death of the Queen came pat, and her reign was accepted as more distinctly an epoch than the end of a century. Perhaps it was both. When planning this first supplement the principals must have worried a lot over ways and means. The idea of loose-leaf sheets for the 200 accidental omissions may have occurred to them and been perforce rejected. No doubt, the idea would not do. But it had two merits. It would have made more *complete* the earlier volumes, and it would have made it possible to add to the appropriate volume future accidental omissions. Take one famous example: Vol. XXII (first supplement) was completed before 1903. In that year an utterly forgotten worthy sprang into historical fame—Thomas Creevey, of the *Creevey Papers*, long stored away in a Northumberland attic. If Charles Greville deserved two columns, Creevey in bare justice deserves one. For cranks, oddities and rarities are allowed to rub shoulders in *D.N.B.* with sheer ability and worth. But Creevey remains outside the Valhalla and must await another supplement of accidental omissions, which may be many years distant. A loose-leaf addendum could have put that right in the right volume. The wisdom of the policy of keeping the notices to cool factual writing, which admittedly might disappoint the families and intimates of men recently dead, is not to be challenged. Nothing could be more dangerous than to perpetuate the exaggerations of funeral oratory and encomium or the evanescent tastes and popularities of an era, which is transient and but a moment of time. But the strictness is not absolute. A dull writer is always dull, a lively, imaginative writer cannot be dull and finds occasions to slip through the editorial net a flash of insight and a "little picture" or two. And under the present editorship a certain liveliness is evident.

**Accuracy Vital.**—Yet there are dangers in deviation from the strictest rules. Precautions to ensure accuracy to the most trivial detail must never be relaxed. A slip in the ancestry of a famous man is a small matter, hardly worth correction. It is the man that matters. But if the detail is passed as relevant, it should be correctly stated. I will cite two tiny slips out of a larger number I have noticed and forgotten. Sarah Ponsonby ("Lady of Llangollen") is described as if the daughter of a peer, in her own place; she is properly described under Lady Eleanor Butler. Bishop Charles Gore's immediate forbears are muddled up (a generation skipped) in the Bishop of Durham's otherwise excellent notice.

What's the odds? Only this, that if the ancestry is worth insertion, it should be correct. These kinds of trivial, irritating slips could never occur if the editors made a point of submitting drafts to members of the subject's family for correction on genealogical details and other details best known to the subject's kin.

Another danger in any deviation from the cold, factual method, which insists on absolute accuracy and outlaws hearsay evidence, lies in the nearness of the published supplements to the era and lifetime of the subject.

This is especially true of literary men, artists, politicians. Nothing changes more quickly than literary or artistic taste and judgments; nothing is more fogged by the smoke of prejudice and controversy than political events and policies.

A best-seller of to-day may be dirt to-morrow. A Winterhalter, hung on the line in his day, may be skied to-morrow, and even a politician may be damned or justified fifty years after his death. But if his "notice" is printed within ten years of his death, how much evanescent adulation or prejudice must seep in to a factual and cool survey and judgment. For ever new publications based on new research are revising accepted judgments of British worthies—of Charles I, Charles II, of Nelson, of Byron, of Ruskin (to take at haphazard a few subjects whose careers never cease to interest readers). I doubt if the notices of Ruskin and Millais, included in the first supplement, would be accepted by the present editor without revision.

Even Shakespeare . . . but I will say no more. If the rules and policy of George Smith had been strictly applied to Shakespeare, his notice could hardly have filled half a column.

*D.N.B.* is a monumental work. It is my desert-island choice. It holds the romance of a thousand good novels for me, and Mr. George Smith and his lieutenants have done a great job well.

**ENGLAND'S ONLY TIDE MILL IS IN NEED OF A NEW ROOF:** The general structure of Woodbridge, Suffolk, tide mill is sound, but parts of the mansard roof badly need repair. Some of the pantiles have slipped and holes have appeared in the roof. Many of the existing pantiles are insecure and the soffits and fascia need repair. The mill dates from 1170 and is owned by Mr. G. le M. Atkinson. A suggestion that corrugated iron should be used to re-roof the mill has been opposed on the grounds that the mill would be disfigured. The mill is operated by water from the pond on the right of the picture, which is replenished from the River Debden on the left. As the tide comes up the river it pushes open sluice-gates, letting water into the pond

**MODERN HIGHWAY CONVENIENCES FOR ROTTINGDEAN'S "OLD-WORLDLINESS":** An appeal by Brighton Corporation against the quashing last September of a £10,000 improvement scheme to Dean Court Road, Rottingdean, has been allowed by the Recorder at Brighton Quarter Sessions. The scheme comprises the construction of a road and pavement and the installation of street lighting. A plea on behalf of the "old-worldliness of Rottingdean" was made by the Rottingdean Ratepayers' Association. The Recorder said the objectors agreed to the making of a road, so this was also the time for laying cables

**TEMPLE BAR IN EXILE—THE CITY LANDMARK AND ITS FUTURE:** Last Thursday the City Lands Committee was due to present a report on the state of Temple Bar and whether it should be returned to the City and incorporated into the replanning. Several places close to its traditional site at the junction of Fleet Street and the Strand have been suggested. At present Temple Bar is in Theobald's Park, near Waltham Abbey, where it was erected by Sir Henry Bruce Meux, to whom it was given in 1878. There is some doubt whether Temple Bar would stand a removal. The original position is now represented by the "Griffin" memorial

**TO BE RESTORED BY THE MINISTRY OF WORKS:** Temple Manor, Rochester, Kent, which is to be acquired from Rochester Council and which is to be preserved as an ancient monument. The Manor, which has a thirteenth-century crypt, was once the home of the Knights Templar. The building has been in the care of the local Council for many years. Ministry experts who recently examined it said that neglect had completely ruined the beautiful seventeenth-century wing with some first-class examples of Tudor windows, and that more than £6,000 would be needed to restore the thirteenth-century stonework and crypt

**A MUSIC ROOM WITH A HOME ATTACHED—THE NEW LONDON RESIDENCE OF THE HAREWOODS:** No. 2, Orme Square, Bayswater, which has been acquired by Lord and Lady Harewood. A late Georgian house, it was once the home of Lord Leighton, the painter, from 1860 to 1866, during which time he added a studio which could now be made into a spacious music room. Sir Rowland Hill, founder of the penny post, at one time lived next door. No. 2 has three sitting-rooms

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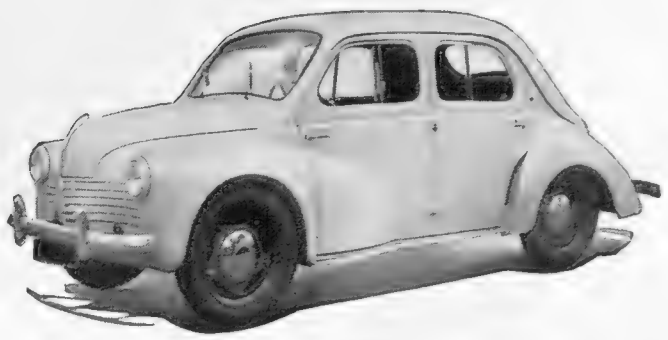

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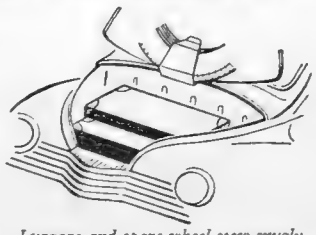

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*The World of Books*—By VERNON FANE

# THE ACCENT IS ON MELODRAMA

*Mr. Rex Warner's "Men of Stones" and Mr. Bryan Morgan's "Rosa"*

MR. REX WARNER is a novelist of ideas, and possibly one of the most important that the last ten years have produced, although his output has been so small, and it has been six years now since *The Aerodrome* appeared. He calls his new novel a melodrama, but people with highly-coloured memories of the Lyceum are liable to be somewhat disconcerted, although the cut and thrust of Mr. Warner's story is deliberately presented in melodramatic terms. His theme is the dangers in one direction, and attraction, in another, of imposed authority, and the weakness of ordinary humanity. It could well be called the theme of to-day, and in MEN OF STONES (Bodley Head. 9s.) it is treated with a real brilliance.

ROSA (Hodder and Stoughton. 8s. 6d.), which is certainly more of a melodrama than the book just mentioned, is described as a "novel of Good and Evil," and although there is something slightly overwhelming about that, an echo of the less cynical days in which both Hall Caine and Charles Garvice could flourish, it is a reasonably exact phrase for a novel that has a sincere purpose. Rosa is a girl from Europe, an orphan and poor. She finds work as a daily servant in a suburb, spending her nights in a rather forbidding hostel, but she has a quality variously described by her room-mate, by a spiv-gangster, and by the priest of the church she constantly attends; a quality that could be called positive virtue. By accident Rosa is embroiled in a shabby circle of London criminals, who threaten but fail to intimidate her. They are well drawn in all their vicious smallness; better drawn, in fact, than Rosa, who, in spite of Mr. Bryan Morgan's best intentions, is rather a colourless figure. And in the end they kill her, bringing the retribution of the law smartly down on their own nasty heads. A tale with a moral and a tale that proves, amongst other things, that Mr. Morgan knows how to write.

PARRIS MITCHELL OF KING'S ROW (Cassell. 10s. 6d.) is highly moral too, I feel sure, but in a more sentimental and certainly more confused way. Henry and Katharine Bellamann have written about this same Middle Western community before, and with some success, I understand, but this story seems overloaded for success by the implacable series of murders, suicides and insanities, not to mention natural but over-timely deaths which weigh down its pages.

Dr. Mitchell is the leading light at the mental hospital in this town where most sympathetic characters—down to a dachshund—are of German or Austrian descent and incomprehensibly persecuted during that part of World War I in which the United States were concerned. There are horrors a-plenty from rapes to beheading, but Dr. Mitchell eventually wins through to happiness with a lady called Randy. Consistent throughout, the prefatory quotation is from a letter of R. M. Rilke's: ". . . *what we call destiny comes out of people, not into them from the outside.*" Not a quotation-capper by inclination—it does occur to me that this was better said once and for all by W. Shakespeare:

> "*The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,*
> *But in ourselves, that we are underlings.*"

Another part of United States life is illustrated by Elizabeth Seifert's novel, PRIDE OF THE SOUTH (Collins. 10s. 6d.), which is both lush and readable. After the war an English bride is expected to return with her young husband to his ancestral acres on the Mississippi. The family, in three generations, stages a homecoming reception and sits back to observe the girl as she makes her first uncouth British mistakes. The originality of this plot, and the warm realism of the author, lies in the fact that not only are the mistakes never made to any important degree, but the American in-laws prove to be as fallible and as charming as members of any other race. A likeable book, and possibly as true a picture of transatlantic life as its sombre counterpart.

The rigours of an English winter accelerate such drama as there is in Miss Sheila Kaye-Smith's novel of

**THE DUKE OF WINDSOR TURNS AUTHOR AGAIN: The Duke at work on his memoirs which are being printed by the American magazine *Life*, and are to be serialised also in a London Sunday newspaper. The memoirs carry the Duke's story through his mature years, telling of his Empire tours, his accession, and the circumstances leading up to abdication**

an East Sussex farm and its farmer. Not that this is the kind of book in which drama is necessary or even suitable. The amiable oaf who is the story's hero, thrives on a regular routine and a peaceful existence, and learns to regret the fact that his evenly timed visits to the local result in his falling in love. For not only does the lady refuse to leave her husband for him, but she insists, when she is snowed-up in the farmhouse with the nice bumpkin, on cooking him meals with lots of cheese and herbs. In the end, he returns to the girl who understands about chops smothered with onions and one feels that in THE TREASURES OF THE SNOW (Cassell. 8s. 6d.) Miss Kaye-Smith has had just as good a time, and as much fun, as her imitators or parodists have ever known.

The legend of Godiva is the subject of Mr. Lewis Sowden's novel, LADY OF COVENTRY (Robert Hale. 9s. 6d.), which is announced as a romance, but which opens with a serious discussion of the few known facts and the familiar theories about the famous ride. "The question may begin with 'Did it happen?' but sooner or later resolves itself into 'Could it have happened?' . . . Could Leveric Earl of Mercia really have ordered his wife to go riding naked through the streets of Coventry? And could she have obeyed?" Mr. Sowden thinks that he could, *and* she could.

Mr. Philip Lindsay has written a romantic reconstruction of Lady Jane Grey's brief life and even briefer tenure of the Crown of England. THERE IS NO ESCAPE (Hutchinson. 12s. 6d.) is yet another attempt to probe through to the real character of the girl-queen, who has variously been seen as a featureless puppet, an *intrigante*, a sad beauty and, in Mr. Lindsay's pages, a woman of rigid principles and a morbid revulsion from the life of the senses.

Taffrail brings us back to our own days with his typically breezy novel, TOBY SHAD (Hodder and Stoughton. 9s. 6d.), a tale of a likeable young man, ex-R.N.V.R., who finds a post-war job as manager of a small shipbuilding yard on the East Coast and sets to work with a will at what appears to be an interesting but fairly placid occupation. He soon finds, however, that his wartime experience in M.T.B.s is going to stand him in good stead, for the little tidal river, difficult to navigate and particularly dangerous after dark, is the haunt of a band of thugs who are trying to steal radar secrets from the shipyard's experimental station. All of which promises fun and games for Toby, of the kind he best understands, and mild fun for the reader too.

Mr. Lajos Zilahy is an Hungarian novelist who enjoys a considerable reputation on the Continent. THE DUKAYS (Heinemann. 12s. 6d.) is one of those large family sagas; very long, but well written and extremely entertaining. Its subject is the decay of middle European aristocracy in the first half of this century—personified in one large Hungarian family, the Dukays, with a palace in Vienna and a house in Paris as well as their house in Buda and their enormous estate and castle in the country, Ararat by name. The story is packed with a diversity of characters, all of them vibrantly alive, and their loves, their virtues and their vices are comprehensively dealt with in a book which is full of rich description and laced with wit and humour.

The most enchanting autobiography of the week was written nearly fifty years ago, but is as fresh and humanly touching and amusing as if it had first gone to the printers' a month ago. "RIP VAN WINKLE": The Autobiography of Joseph Jefferson (Reinhardt and Evans. 18s.), has a foreword by Miss Eleanor Farjeon, the English granddaughter of the great American actor, and in it she explains how he was identified with his best-known stage role till "he became during his lifetime, a legend as indigenous to America as Rip Van Winkle." In his heyday, which began in the '60's, Joe Jefferson was not only a popular actor in the United States; he became an institution. His fame began in New York, but it spread across the continent, and often he travelled with it. Miss Farjeon tells us that on his long annual tours, in small towns where he would only play for one night and where he might never appear again, business came to a halt, shops were closed, children kept from school, streets decorated, and a "Jefferson holiday" was proclaimed, so that young and old could afterwards say they had seen Joe Jefferson play Rip Van Winkle. This is an enchanting warm-hearted book.

# THE £ s. d. OF BOOK COLLECTING

P. H. Muir Has Some More Sound Advice in His Letters to Everyman

Quite the most engaging writer on books and book-collecting is P. H. Muir, whose *Letters to Everyman* are full of the wisdom of experience. In his latest volume, BOOK-COLLECTING (Cassell. 7s. 6d.), Mr. Muir devotes a short chapter to auction sales, and his advice is, leave them alone, "the dealers consider the auction-rooms as their province and they regard outsiders as interlopers." In a chapter on book-collecting as an investment, he also has some timely words for the unweary, showing the tremendous fluctuations which can occur in the book market over a comparatively short period. He quotes the sensational sale in New York in 1929 of the library of Jerome D. Kern, which sold at the top of the market for £345,892. Kern, it appears, used every penny of the money to bolster his holdings in the falling Stock Market and, when the market crashed, it all vanished into nothingness. If Kern had held on to the proceeds of the sale in 1929 until 1932, Mr. Muir adds, he could have acquired another collection three, four or five times as valuable as the original one. One author whose books, after a setback in the '80's, have risen steadily in value through the fluctuating years has been Anthony Trollope. In his lifetime he was popular and fashionable, but eclipse came in 1883 after the frank revelation in his *Autobiography* that he regarded novel-writing as a business much on a par with other means of earning a livelihood. It seems that such a revelation was too much for the romantic Victorians. The eclipse lasted until shortly before the First World War when an edition of *Barchester Towers* in the original cloth was sold for 36s. In 1914 *The Last Chronicle* in the original cloth went for 7s. Six years later a soiled copy of *Barchester Towers* fetched £3, and in 1920 a fine copy of the same edition went for £20. Since then a very fine copy of *Barchester Towers* has been sold for £115, and, in the opinion of Mr. Muir, at least as much as that might be realised to-day. In the reverse direction, the author points to the limited editions which were all the rage in the '20's, notably the works of Norman Gale, Richard le Gallienne, and William Watson, "which were bought avidly at ludicrous prices." To-day few collectors give them a second glance, or pay the few shillings optimistically demanded for them. This is an enthralling volume, and, with all its wealth of facts, it gains measurably by reason of its pleasant conversational style.

Two companion volumes which will make an immediate appeal to lovers of the theatre are Ernest Newman's WAGNER NIGHTS (Putnam. 35s.) and Cyril W. Beaumont's COMPLETE BOOK OF BALLETS (Putnam. 30s.), which was first published in 1937 and now appears in a revised edition. These are ideal books for the opera-goer and the ballet-goer to read before a performance, for it needs no stressing that familiarity with character and plot, with significant musical themes, can add immensely to enjoyment. Mr. Beaumont's book covers the period from 1837 almost to the present day, and in all some 200 ballets are treated.

Irving Stone, who admits that he once wrote seventeen plays in two years, has been more successful in the realm of biography ever since his best-selling life of Van Gogh, *Lust for Life*, appeared in 1933. *Sailor on Horseback*, the story of Jack London, was another successful biography, and now he follows it with *Adversary in the House*, the life of Eugene Debs, which was reviewed in last week's issue of THE SPHERE. and DARROW FOR THE DEFENCE (Bodley Head. 12s. 6d.), the story of a great American advocate and pioneer of social reform. Darrow is remembered all over the world for his duel with William Jennings Bryan in the Tennessee Evolution case at Dayton, but, in the United States, where he became a legend in his own time, his fight against the Pullman Company at the turn of the century was more typical of the man. Mr. Stone gives a penetrating portrait of Darrow, showing some of the great qualities that lay beneath the tough, cynical showman of the courts who, above all else, was sincere in his defence of the underdog.

An appetising and well-planned refresher course in the enjoyment of crime is the verdict of Mr. Howard Haycraft, American historian of the detective story, on THE COMPLETE MURDER SAMPLER (Macdonald. 10s. 6d.), which now makes its bow in this country. "This is a sampler done in careful cross-stitch—murder picked out in scarlet thread; death in black," writes James Nelson in his introduction to such writers as W. W. Jacobs, John Buchan, Edgar Wallace, G. K. Chesterton, and Mary Roberts Rinehart.

Norman Wymer's SPORT IN ENGLAND (Harrap. 15s.) is a history of 2,000 years of games and pastimes. The volume is well illustrated from old prints and contemporary photographs, and the reader will feel, like the author, impelled to ask the question: Is sport in the future to become more fast and furious than it is to-day? Will the pace quicken still further as the decades go on?

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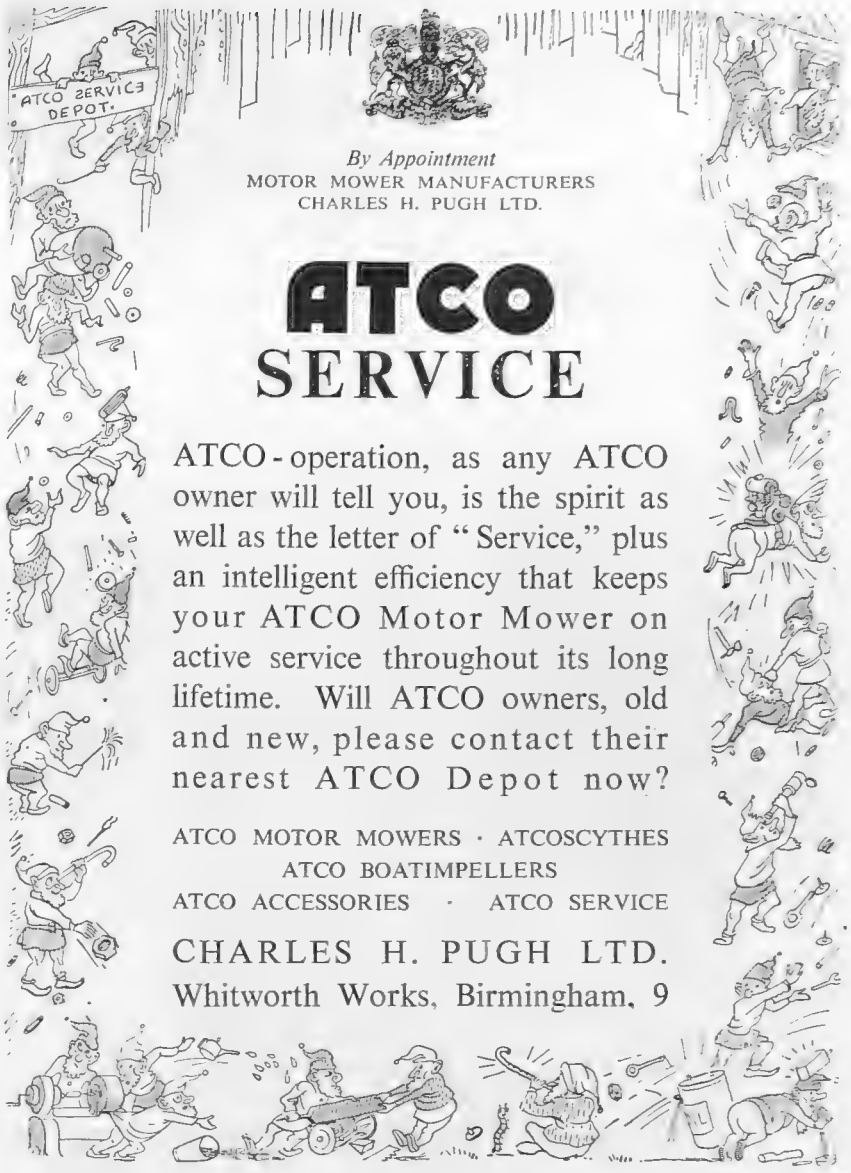


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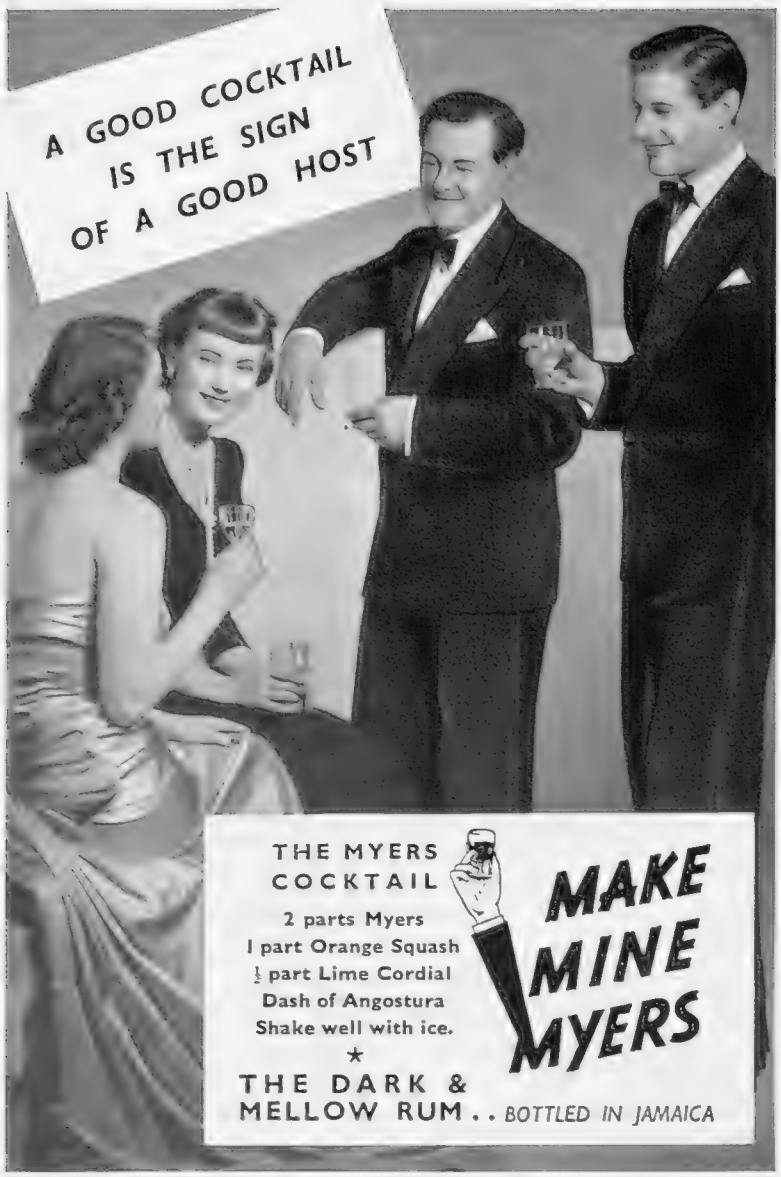

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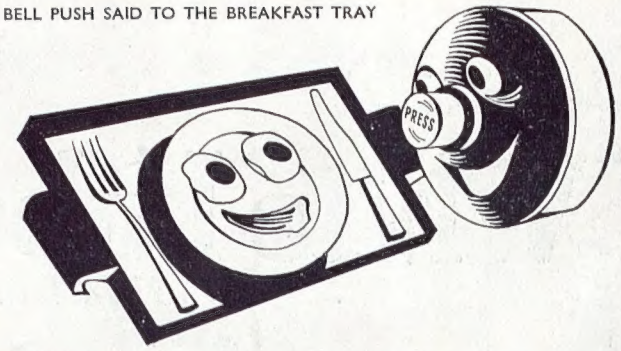


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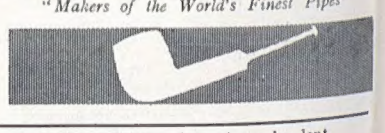


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